

Alaska Society of Radiologic Technologists

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Claudia Tessier
Editor

Letter from the President



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ ASRT Elections
- ◆ R.T. in D.C.
- ◆ ASKRT Conference

Greetings fellow technologists,

Another year of activity is coming to a close as we approach our annual meeting to be held in Fairbanks this year. I look forward to seeing many of you in attendance. This year we will be acknowledging three individuals for their pioneering efforts in establishing our state society and continued support throughout the last 24 years. This is also an election year, which means a change in leadership is anticipated. All officer positions are open. If you are interested in participating in state society leadership I would strongly encourage you to contact any of the officers listed in this newsletter. Or you can contact me directly at dalecollins@aol.com

In the past some have asked what the membership receives from the \$25 per year membership fee? An opportunity to participate is the primary benefit while your funds go to maintaining expenses associated with the societies corporate status within Alaska. It provides purchase of ARRT mailing lists so that we have a current listing of credentialed technologists in the state to provide annual meeting information/registration material.

Sponsorship of the annual meeting is a large task coordinated by state member

Message from the Editor

I hope everyone is enjoying longer hours of daylight and the expectations of winter coming to an end! This also signals the time for our [ASRT](#) election. Go online and cast your vote. Becoming involved with the ASRT can be very rewarding. For those who have not been exposed to the House of Delegates or Leadership Academy with the ASRT, they are both excellent experiences! There is no other opportunity to network with such a large gathering of individuals who share in our profession.

This is also an election year for our state

volunteer(s) at various locations around the state. Start-up costs require a minimum of \$2000 to establish contracts with event location vendor, reservation of room blocks, catering services, speaker costs (travel/lodging/meals), and media support. Fees charged by the conference are the only source of income for the society aside from membership fees.

Other uses of the funds generated include maintenance of annual Registered Agent representation for non-profit corporation and verification fee for confirmation of 'good-standing' as a non-profit in Alaska. Finally, incidental costs associated with operations, such as tax filing requirements, logo paraphernalia, and web site maintenance/updating fees also have to be considered.

I would like to thank the state society for the opportunity to serve these past 5 plus years as your President. As my term comes to a close I am grateful to all those who have done a splendid job coordinating each years state meetings. See you in Fairbanks.

Sincerely,

Dale E. Collins
President, AKSRT

society, which offers the opportunity for each of you to benefit. By becoming an officer in your affiliate (state) society, you become eligible for so many opportunities to grow in the profession and have a say in the future of our profession. The CARE bill in D.C. and updates to our own state Licensure are important issues.

Plans are also underway for our AKSRT annual meeting and educational conference. I hope to see you in the Golden Heart City of Fairbanks, April 24th and 25th.

Claudia



Your Vote Matters

AKSRT Fairbanks 2009 Conference Form and information was sent to members by mail, or check our website www.AKSRT.com

ASRT Elections

Vote in the 2009 ASRT Elections

Polls are open through March 13.

If you would like a paper ballot, call VR Election Services at 800-218-4026 and request that they mail the ballot to you. Only 2 percent of ASRT members vote

AK SRT Board Elections

Elections are coming!

During the Fairbanks 2009 Annual Conference you will elect the new President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary of the Alaska Society of Radiologic Technologists.

If you know of someone who will be a great candidate for any of the board

Image Gently Offer education tools for parents

When an ill or injured child needs medical imaging tests, parents have lots of questions. Radiologic technologists now have a new way to answer many of those questions and to help parents track their children's exposure to medical radiation. The Alliance for Radiation Safety in Pediatric Imaging has developed two brochures that explain the risks and benefits of medical

imaging each year. These members help shape the future of the radiologic sciences, the ASRT and your job.

Get informed and vote. It's your right.

Your Vote Matters.

Vote online at www.asrt.org/vote.

positions, just email Cecilia Del Rio at delrio@acsalaska.net to include your nomination and the name of your candidate will be added to the ballots.

The only requirements are to be a member of the ASRT and of the AKSRT in good standing.

We'll be waiting for you email!

imaging as well as an imaging record card that allows parents to track the studies performed on their children.

The ASRT encourages technologists to download the materials from the Image Gently Web site, www.imagegently.org, and make them available to parents in their departments and facilities. [Read more.](#)

Show that you CARE

Dear Fellow R.T.,

The Alaska Society of Radiologic Technologists will not be represented at RT in DC in April when other RT's from around the US meet in Washington DC to lobby for the CARE bill which is scheduled to be reintroduced in Congress soon. But, there is something that you, as a member of the AKSRT, can do.

The CARE bill will mandate federal minimum standards for medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals. The R.T.s from Alaska should be emailing, writing and/or calling the Alaska representatives and senators to gain support for the pending legislation to be reintroduced later this month. We would like to send as many letters as

possible to Washington to show how important Alaska technologists and residents feel about improving the standard of healthcare in this area. I am available to provide any information that you would need about the CARE bill and contacting your legislative representatives. Please contact me at delrio@acsalaska.net. The ASRT website provides a link www.asrt.org or directly to <http://capwiz.com/asrt/utr/1/AWBXJTFNTD/BGSLJTGBTZ/2879352946>, where you can find information and history on the CARE bill. We can also assist with writing letters and how to educate the public about what Radiologic technologists do. Thank you for your help, Cecilia Del Rio, R.T.(R) AKSRT Secretary

AKSRT Fairbanks 2009 Conference

April 24 and 25

Fairbanks, the Golden Heart City will be hosting the Alaska Society of Radiologic Technologists 2009 Annual State Conference. This will be a great opportunity to further your education and network with others in your profession. The conference offers 14 CE's with double session on Saturday for mammography and ultrasound.

If you're a member of the AKSRT the information is in the mail, you should receive it soon.

The event will be at [Alpine Lodge](#). A discounted

R.T. in D.C.

Lobby With R.T.s on Capitol Hill

R.T. in D.C. — Register before March 18
Event is April 19-21

At the premier networking and advocacy event in the radiologic sciences, attendees will learn about current medical imaging issues, attend a seminar about lobbying on Capitol Hill and meet with their congressional

representatives. Registration is now open, and there is no fee to register for the event, which includes a welcoming reception, two breakfasts, a lunch and a dinner. Attendees are responsible for their own transportation, accommodations and some meal expenses. **For information, visit www.asrt.org/rtindc.**

ASRT-PAC®

Support the ASRT-PAC®

If you can't make it to the R.T. in D.C. event, you can still influence legislators who will make the laws that affect your profession. Contributions to the ASRT-PAC® enable us to help candidates who support our cause. Send a strong

message that more than 131,000 ASRT members merit candidates' attention on health care issues that have an effect on medical imaging technologists and radiation therapists. **Contribute today at www.asrt.org/pac.**

Mailing of renewal Membership

From Cecilia Del Rio, AKSRT Secretary I received several phone calls from fellow technologists that did not receive their renewal for membership in November 2008.

Each case was addressed accordingly, and I need to briefly explain the logistics of the mailing process. The ARRT (American Registry of Radiologic Technologists) provides the labels with the complete mailing list of registered technologists in the state of Alaska. There is an option after you login in the www.ARRT.org website where you can choose to be excluded from mailing lists, take your address out of the public view, select not to receive mailing from your society, etc. If you do not know how to access your information on the web site I will gladly explain to you how to access and edit your personal

information.

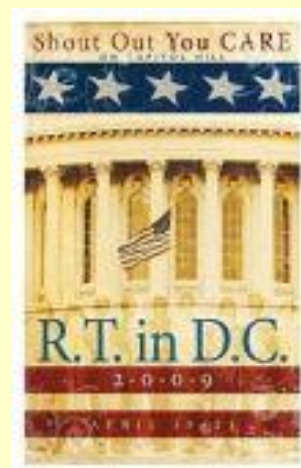
Several cases I did not have the label for the technologists and I suspect that is because they selected one or more of those options. Other cases are just probably "lost on the mail."

If you have any problems, please contact me and I will be more than happy to assist you in any way I can. I do apologize for those who did not receive their renewal membership on time. We are trying to offer the best service and support for all you, and if you have any suggestions on how to improve or offer better services, please, drop a line to delrio@acsalska.net or contact any of the board members with your suggestions. Thank you and hope to see you soon in Fairbanks. Until then

Cecilia

Room fee is offered for this event. Alaska Airlines offers a 10% discount with online reservations. We have great speakers and presentations. To name a few, a representative from the ARRT who will share the latest information about registry, a Forensic Radiologic Technologist and others who will share the latest technology with us. Registration for the 2 day conference is only \$185 for AKSRT members. This includes a Friday night banquet, breakfast and lunch both days. We look forward to seeing you in beautiful Golden Heart City of Alaska.

Fairbanks Conference Committee



*Looking for Job opportunities?
Look under the
ASRT [Job Bank®](#)
For more information!*



Students Corner



Upcoming 2009 grads

Anchorage



1st row left to right: Cindy Flores, Marissa Senn, Lorena DelReal, Pamela Saculles, Carly Wieh
2nd row Kevin Kuhn, Phil Wright, Diana Cowan, Erica Jenkins, Terry Shroyer, Karl Krenz, Emily Kocinski, Mika Thomas, Kim Park, Dana Giglio

Bethel



Nina Menegak

Ketchikan



Alicia Laflan

Fairbanks



Jim Barr, Leslie Kitchin, Kelsey McCormack, Lisa Spellman-Koshinsky, Cristal Webb

Fairbanks pinning ceremony will be held at the Fairbanks Imaging Center
Thursday April 23, 2009 @ 6:30PM.

We're on the Web!
www.AKSRT.com

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 Radiologic Technologists
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E-mail: Secretary
delrio@acslaska.net

AKSRT Officers



SOCIETY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: [Dale Collins](#)
 VICE-PRESIDENT: [Scott Smith](#)
 SECRETARY: [Cecilia Del Rio](#)
 TREASURER: [Rhonda Merrihew](#)

AKSRT COMMITTEES

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE 2009

Claudia Tessier
 Cecilia Del Rio

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chair Person: Donna
 Rufsholm, Co-Chair: Rhonda
 Merrihew, Blynn Dahlhamer,
 Sheila Fernandez,
 Claudia Tessier

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Rhonda Merrihew,
 Brandi Schuerman

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Peggy Garey, Kim Treadwell
 INCORPORATION

Dale Collins

NEWSLETTER CO-ORDINATORS

Claudia Tessier
 Cecilia Del Rio

State Legislation Update

State Licensure Efforts Update

As many of the members of the Alaska Society of Radiologic Technologists are aware, the AKSRT has been attempting for many years to get legislation passed for state licensure of individuals who perform ionizing radiation procedures in the state of Alaska. This legislation will establish education and credentialing standards that will ensure competency of all individuals who perform x-ray exams resulting in improved radiation protection and safety for patients and workers and improved patient care.

AKSRT Legislative Affairs Committee members are frequently asked by RT's from around the state why we need to have licensure in Alaska. The answer is that for every one of the approximately 500 Registered Radiologic Technologists in the state there is another person, who is not a registered technologist, performing x-ray exams in the state. Some of these individuals have had formal education in x-ray, some have had a minimum of education and many have had no education at all. To ensure that all patients get the best care possible, we need to make sure all individuals who perform x-ray exams know what they are doing. We need to make sure they know about radiation protection and safety, equipment maintenance and operation, image production and evaluation, radiographic anatomy and positioning procedures. The only way that we can make sure they know what they are doing

is to establish a licensure program in the state that will ensure competency by establishing educational and credentialing standards.

Licensure will not change the way you, as an RT, perform your job. Registered Radiologic Technologists will only need to provide proof of current ARRT certification to the state to meet the requirement standards for state licensure.

The AKSRT Legislative Affairs Committee needs support from the RT's around the state. Talk to the Representative and Senator from your district and ask them to support the legislation. If you do not support our efforts you need to let us know. The AKSRT is your state professional organization. The AKSRT officers, Board, and Legislative Affairs Committee members represent you. If you have questions or concerns about the legislation, do not hesitate to contact one of the following individuals.

Donna Rufsholm
 Legislative Affairs
 Committee Chair
 299-2046 cell
 235-0360 work
Rhonda Merrihew
 Legislative Affairs
 Committee Co-Chair
 244-1208 cell
 868 -3434 home

