



# Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists

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OSRT UPDATES

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Greetings OSRT Members! Just a note from the OSRT hoping that everyone is having a great week celebrating their profession! This newsletter is full of some important upcoming changes within the OSRT and we are trying our best to keep you informed.

The OSRT is very proud to announce that our named lecture series during our banquet has now been formally changed to honor *Julie Gill, PhD, RT(R)(QM)*. The names listed in the title are a combination of former OSRT members that had moved into the position of ASRT President. The new formal name will be the **Penn-Hu-Mac-Par-Gill** Lecture. Thank you Julie Gill for representing our profession so well!

Another announcement is that Ohio is very proud to have won the ASRT's **ACE** (Announce, Communicate, Explain) Award. During the competition Ohio won the award with a total of 183 pledges! This means the OSRT will receive a check from the ASRT for one thousand dollars to help support our organization. The OSRT wants everyone to know how much we appreciate their efforts on this campaign, we couldn't have done it without you!

Some other important dates and changes within our organization, relates to the OSRT Annual Meeting. The next **Meeting will be held April 9th-11th**; for this meeting all deadlines for **grants and competitions is March 1**. The **Quiz Bowl will also now be moved to Saturday during the meeting**.

Regarding the meeting registration process, OSRT implemented a **new cancellation/refund policy**:

To receive a refund, OSRT must receive your request 7 days prior to the start of the conference. Refunds will be issued based on your original method of payment, and a \$50 cancellation fee will be applied. No refund, full or partial, will be made after that date. All cancellation/refund requests should be faxed to the Executive Secretary at 866-405-6778 or emailed to [osrt@osrt.org](mailto:osrt@osrt.org) by the refund deadline date.

The OSRT Nominations Committee seeks members to run for the **OSRT Board of Directors and President-Elect**. The Committee is now accepting nominations for these positions and application submissions must be received by **January 15, 2015**. To review the eligibility requirements and access the online application please visit: <http://www.osrt.org/connex/rt-connex>. Your talent and service are needed!

The OSRT is also looking for candidates for the **Technologist of the Year Award**. Do you know someone that deserves to be Technologist of the Year?

In 1973, the OSRT Board of Directors established the Technologist of the Year Award to be presented at each Annual Meeting.

Who may nominate? Any OSRT active member may electronically submit a nominee application.

To nominate a candidate please review the eligibility requirements

and access the online application at: <http://www.osrt.org/annual-meeting/honors-and-awards>. Application submissions must be received by **January 15, 2015**.

The OSRT is also seeking a **Parliamentarian**. The parliamentarian presides over OSRT Board meetings and business sessions and must be well-versed in *Robert's Rules of Order*, which are the rules, ethics, and customs governing Board of Directors and member business meetings.

Routinely, there are four board meetings and one business session scheduled for which the parliamentarian must be present in addition to being available to answer questions throughout the year of appointment. Board meetings typically last approximately seven hours. Members who are interested in this volunteer position may contact the OSRT Executive Secretary, Sheryl Bacon at [osrt.osrt.org](http://osrt.osrt.org)

There are a number of ways for you to serve your profession, please contact the Executive Secretary and apply for the openings available. OSRT appreciates your interest in the profession and willingness to serve!



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

**What is your name, job title and educational background?** Curt Sagraves, MEd, RT(R)(CT). I am a Radiologic Technologist working primarily in MRI. I have a post primary certification in registered in radiography and computed tomography and am currently working toward registration in magnetic resonance imaging. I received an Associate's Degree in Radiologic Technology from Columbus State Community College in 1995, a Bachelor's Degree in Radiation Science Technology in 2011 from the University of Cincinnati, and a Master's Degree in Higher Education with an emphasis on adult teaching and learning from Kaplan University this past summer.

**How would you describe the institution in which you work to someone who is visiting for the first time?** I work at Clinton Memorial Hospital, a 65 bed facility in the capital of a Southwest Ohio rural county. The facility provides a variety of services ranging from same day care to intensive care to emergency care to dialysis. Imaging services range from diagnostic x-ray and ultrasound to nuclear medicine, MRI, and CT. Our emphasis is to treat the patient with compassion and respect and actively bring them into their own patient care process. A patient being treated at this hospital will feel "special" and know their care was provided by caregivers that truly have a passion for their profession.

**What does your job entail and why did this type of work interest you** Until recently I worked in diagnostic radiology or CT departments and now am in MRI but work in other modalities when warranted. I have to start IV's on a regular basis, have the technical knowledge in the various aspects of imaging modalities, and be able to communicate effectively with patients, peers, and other healthcare professionals. I know this is cliché, but my underlying reason for choosing a healthcare related field was because I wanted to feel that my efforts meant something and that I would be able to make a difference in someone's life, or at least a little bit of it.

**How did you get your present job and what kind of experience and preparation helped you the most?** My previous job performing mobile x-ray caused me to move to Southwest Ohio. I wanted to work in a hospital setting once again, so I kept my eyes open for any openings at the hospital and introduced myself to the radiology department management with phone calls and e-mails. Once an opening became available I applied immediately and was offered the position and have been employed there 4 ½ years.

**Could you describe one of your typical workdays for me?** Typical is the operative word. One satisfying aspect of this vocation is that it is rare that one day is exactly like the next. I start the day in MRI and I peruse the schedule to see if I have enough supplies for the day. Exams can range anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour or more with multiple exams having the potential to take several hours. I need to "interview" each patient to determine if they can be safely scanned and sometimes research various items that may have been surgically implanted in them for MRI safety.

**What do you think the most important skills and abilities are for this position?** There is multitude of skills I need for my position, starting IV's, a working knowledge of general anatomy, sectional anatomy, communication, correlating the order to the correct exam for the physician, compassion, empathy and ethics, just to name a few!

**What parts of your job do you find most challenging?** Disgruntled, scared, or despondent patients. Staying on schedule or making up lost time to keep the patients from waiting. Having to juggle patients or reschedule them due to a mechanical or computer issue. Keeping my lower back healthy and in shape.

**What do find most enjoyable or rewarding?** When a patient genuinely says thank-you for making them feel safe and relieving their fears. When a co-worker walking by asks if there is anything they can do for you. When I know the scan I performed found the issue for which the physician and patient has been looking and a course of treatment can now be determined.

**What changes do you see occurring in this field during the next few years?** If I have learned anything it is that this occupation is always changing, improving, innovating, etc. I can see movement toward larger bore MRI or even truly "open" MRI. Scan acquisition time is being reduced. Higher field strength (3T or higher) is improving image quality. Advancements are being made to make real time heart imaging feasible and improvements in fMRI has reduced 3D brain scan acquisition to milliseconds.

**What changes do you see occurring in this field (your specialty specifically) during the next few years?** I can see movement toward larger bore MRI or even truly "open" MRI. and scan acquisition time is being reduced.

**Where would you like to see yourself in five years?** I would love to give back to this rewarding field of diagnostic imaging; that is why I have acquired a Master's Degree in higher education. I would like to be teaching a radiography or healthcare course at the collegiate level at least in a part-time capacity, while maintaining my hospital duties.

**Are you a member of any other professional clubs, associations or organizations?** ARRT, ASRT, OSRT



**Why did you join the OSRT?** To help the overall cause of the local and regional radiologic technologist. To stay abreast of any changes, innovations and improvements in my field. To plug myself in to a network that may be able to help me or give me the opportunity to help someone within the field.

**What suggestions do you have for an individual wishing to enter this field?** This should be a given, but work your hardest, empathize with your patients and co-workers, be flexible, and make a genuine effort to become a lifelong learner; not JUST in your profession, but in general knowledge. But something else helps just as much if not more – make yourself as marketable as possible by learning and becoming certified in as many modalities as possible. Make the effort and take the time to learn new skills. In this field many people know many others and a dropped name can go a long way so build your networks and do not burn bridges. Be prepared to move to where the jobs are when you start out. Be patient – you will be hired.

**What do professional organizations like the OSRT do for our profession?** It gives likeminded individuals a place to gather to share ideas, failures, thoughts, innovations, etc. It gives technologists a place to ask questions, see trends, and anticipate future changes and improvements. It builds a sense of community for a group whose members share similar experiences. It also gives us a built in network of resources and people that can be used to promote and help ourselves and each other.

**What kinds of hobbies and activities to you enjoy in your spare time?** Last year I decided to finally build a coop and start raising chickens! I have 5 hens, 1 rooster and a chick that was hatched from my own chickens! I want to expand that a bit, so I'm building a barn this month so that I can add more chickens, some goats, and a pig. I started a garden this year and have already enjoyed nice salads from it. Family is an "activity" high on my list. Anytime I can spend with my wife and kids, it's worth it. We love hiking, exploring and going on weekend road trips together. Fishing, golfing, swimming and reading are also enjoyable. I have done community theater in the past and may look into it again now that I have finished my Master's degree.



**The OSRT EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION HONOR ROLL 2013-2014**

*The Foundation Board would like to express sincere appreciation for continuing efforts to support others in pursuit of education. As a Foundation it couldn't work without YOU, so thank-you once again! The Foundation Board*

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Ohio Society of  
Radiologic Technologists

OSRT Toll-free Phone Number  
1-866-405-OSRT (6778)  
[www.osrt.org](http://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.

## This and That...

### Foundation Corner

The Foundation would like to remind you of a couple of important items. The first is the Foundation has a number of grants for you to apply for in the upcoming year, please be sure to visit the OSRT website and click on the Foundation tab. The OSRT Education and Research Foundation annually awards educational grants and all applications must be submitted no later than **March 1** along with meeting related criteria as indicated on the website.

Also just a reminder The OSRT Education & Research Foundation has partnered with the Amazon Smile program. When you make your next purchase on Amazon.com part of the proceeds will be donated to The Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists Education and Research Foundation. Amazon will make a donation of 0.5% of the purchase price of almost any item (excluding digital items) to the charity of your choice. In the Search Box you must type - The Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists Education and

Research Foundation. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation. There is no cap on the amount of money Amazon will donate and there is no additional cost to the consumer; click AmazonSmile to register. We are hopeful the charity of choice you select is The Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists Education and Research Foundation in order for the foundation to receive the donation.

*The OSRTERF Board*



### Notes from the Editor

Just a note to say, “happy radiologic technology week to all of my imaging peers!” Please feel free to share with us how you celebrated the week at,

[llarnold@seormc.org](mailto:llarnold@seormc.org)

*Leisa Horton Arnold*  
Editor

