



September October 2015

National Radiologic Technology Week

Volume 42 Issue 3

# Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists

## National Radiologic Technology Week: It's our week!

I realize this article may seem early but I honestly want to prompt you to begin thinking about Radiologic Technology Week and plan in advance! In the field of Radiologic Technology, everyone knows the significance of the date November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1895. On this date, the discovery of the first x-ray is credited to Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen, in Würzburg, Germany. In honor of this discovery, we celebrate National Radiologic Technology week in early November during the week that contains November 8<sup>th</sup>. The first NRTW was celebrated in July of 1979, but was later moved to November, respectively. This year, we celebrate NRTW from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of November.

The ASRT website has some really cool things to see and read about regarding our special week! Each year, there is a poster that is professionally designed and chosen to represent the field. There is also

an NRTW contest that is presented by the ASRT and it can be found on their website. If you are having trouble finding the contest instructions, I have included a link at the end of this article. I'm sure everyone is wondering if there are prizes involved, and like any good contest, there are! Please visit the link and enter the contest as soon as possible. The deadline is October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015, and I don't want you to miss out on a great opportunity!

The ASRT also has an x-ray vision informational graphic, which is a really neat illustration with facts about our field. Did you know, that in October 2014, there were 327,184 working radiologic technologists in the US? Or, did you know that 76 million CT procedures were performed in 2013? That is some serious job security!

With all of the medical fields of study working side by side to better treat the patient, we may lose track of celebrating each other as professionals. Dedicating a day, week, or

even a month to each field is an excellent way of celebrating ourselves, and each other. As technologists, we should support each other, knowing we all have the same vision with many different views. In closing I would like to say I hope all of you have a "bone-a-fied" National Radiologic Technology Week!

Here is the link for the ASRT contest:

<http://www.asrt.org/events-and-conferences/national-radiologic-technology-week/nrtw-posting-to-the-communities-contest>

Please also be sure to visit the OSRT website to check for updates on events at [www.osrt.org](http://www.osrt.org)

*Aarika Rooney*

*OSRT Student Director*



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

**What is your name, job title, educational background, and credentials?** Emily A. Niemann BS, R.T. (R)(MR), Internal Charge Auditor at Bethesda North Hospital in Montgomery, OH . I have an Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology from University of Cincinnati Raymond Walters College, a Bachelor of Health Science from Northern Kentucky University, and am currently working on a Master degree in Organizational Leadership at University of Mount St. Joseph.

**How would you describe the facility in which you work to someone who is visiting for the first time?** A suburban 375-bed faith-based general medical and surgical facility that is welcoming of all persons regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, etc.

**What is your job?** Auditing medical records against itemized statements, coordinating a report outcome of charge errors and documenting and justifying any changes made, acting as a liaison between patient care departments and revenue management to reduce errors to maximize reimbursement, typically working 40 hours per week.

**How did you get your present job and what kind of experience and preparation helped you the most?** I saw an opening within my organization and it sparked my interest; so I applied for an internal transfer, had an interview, and was offered the position.

**Could you describe one of your typical workdays for me?** I have different work queues on a computer system filled with accounts that are flagged with potential errors based off of CPT codes. I carefully investigate each medical record in these work queues to ensure accurate billing. I have remote access from my home computer to my office computer and currently work two days a week from home, this also allows for personal flexibility.

**What do you think the most important skills and abilities are for this position?** Having a broad knowledge base and a clear understanding of how each hospital department works.

**What do find most enjoyable or rewarding?** When I am auditing accounts I have to problem solve and use critical thinking skills which are things I have always enjoyed. I also learn something new every day and it gives me clarification on what I am doing; it's those "aha" moments that keep me going.

**Describe a satisfying or meaningful experience that you have had during your career.** Aside from patient care as an MRI Technologist, I have learned so much as an Auditor. I have great coworkers that I have learned so much from and the best feeling is when I am able to help facilitate their learning as well.

**What changes do you see occurring in this field during the next few years?** In the world of billing and coding things are constantly changing. CPT codes and government regulations are updated on a yearly basis and sometimes even more frequently.

**Where would you like to see yourself in five years?** That is a tough question. I honestly am not sure where I would like to see myself in five years. Right now I am perfectly content being where I am at and am just setting my sights on completing my Master's degree successfully.

**What suggestions do you have for an individual wishing to enter this field?** I would suggest to always be open for change, always be willing to learn something new, don't get down on yourself for making mistakes but be sure you always learn from them, and never get discouraged.

**Why is your involvement with professional organizations important?** Aside from providing continuing education opportunities and tracking, professional organizations also advances and advocates for us as a profession.

**What kinds of hobbies and activities to you enjoy in your spare time?** I am a typical girly girl and I love shopping! I also enjoy volleyball, karaoke, and most of all I love spending time with family!



## **ASRT Student Leadership and Development Program**

My name is William Pickeral and I am a senior radiography student at The Ohio State University. Recently I was selected as one of ninety radiologic technology students from across the country for the American Society of Radiologic Technologist (ASRT) Student Leadership and Development Program (SLDP). I was very excited to have been accepted into the program and anxious to meet individuals from all over the country who share my love and respect for Radiologic Sciences.

My experience at the 2015 ASRT Educational Symposium and House of Delegates meeting as a SLDP participant surpassed my expectations and served as the beginning of what I hope to be a career spanning involvement with the ASRT. As a SDLP participant, I went to meetings and listened and tried to absorb as much information as I could to take back to Ohio and share with my peers. Upon returning to Ohio, I was asked, "How was your trip?" It was difficult to sum up my entire ASRT experience into a few sentences. I typically responded with a long speech about my experience and found my enthusiasm increased with every word. Still, I could not put the words together that perfectly described what I felt to be an inspirational experience. The professional pride displayed at the meeting, acknowledgment of professional accomplishments during the honors ceremony, and the overall investment into students as the future of the profession was an invaluable experience!

Through this experience I have learned the best way to serve my profession is to begin at the state level. I had the pleasure of meeting many Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologist (OSRT) representatives, who all welcomed me to the profession, recognized me as a future leader, and encouraged me to volunteer with the OSRT while continuing my involvement with the ASRT. My involvement with the ASRT and OSRT as a student will give me a chance to improve my leadership abilities so I am better prepared to lead after I graduate and become a registered radiologic technologist

The ASRT House of Delegates proceedings at the annual meeting also gave me insight to how the state affiliate societies such as the OSRT work closely with the ASRT to be advocates of the profession. These participants represent thousands of radiologic technology professionals on the state and national level. When I was asked about the House of Delegates by a classmate, I compared it to congress, except the members of the house are radiologic technologist. The proceedings are official and conducted in a serious and professional manner. There were delegates at the meeting from almost every state that were elected to be the voice of radiologic technologists from his/her state. As a witness to various amendments being proposed to the practice standards or debates during chapter meetings, I was glad to know so much thought was being put into the radiologic technology profession. One point of discussion during the meeting that stands out to me is where leaders talked about the educational requirements for entry-level radiologic technologists. One educator thought it should be mandated that the entry-level education requirements for radiologic technologists be moved from an associate's degree to a bachelorette degree; this obviously created some interesting conversation.

After witnessing how the ASRT and its affiliates work diligently to make sure the issues that radiologic technologists face are handled in a professional manner, I am proud to be a member and advocate of the ASRT and the OSRT! After all, as I understand advocacy is pivotal to the overall advancement of the profession!





## Foundation Corner

The OSRTERF Board was pleasantly surprised to receive the following letter from one of our grant recipients. Thanks again to all of you for your continued support of the Foundation. *The OSRTERF Board*

*I am writing to express my gratitude to the OSRTER Foundation for the grants awarded to me in the amount of \$500. This scholarship will help alleviate and cover some of the expenses that go along with attending college and not being able to work while attending college and studying for my rigorous college curriculum. My expenses for the spring and summer semesters outweighed my loans due to living expenses while preparing for the expecting twins in addition to tuition costs for the radiography program at Cuyahoga Community College. I would like to personally thank the members of the Foundation that rigorously went through many applications for the grant and choose me as one of its recipients.*

*Sincerely, Christian Simesucu*

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	<b><u>OSRT VISION</u></b>	
The OSRT will be the voice of Ohio medical imaging and radiologic science professionals.		
<b><u>OSRT MISSION</u></b>		
The OSRT will advocate for medical imaging and radiologic science professionals by advancing professional practice to enhance the quality of patient care.		
<b>Education Committee Event</b>		

The OSRT Education Committee will be hosting an Open Forum on September 25, 2015 from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at Zane State College to discuss the proposed changes to the ARRT Content Specifications and Clinical Competency Requirements. This event will specifically address radiography; however, ARRT's call for input from educators focuses on radiography, sonography, radiation therapy and nuclear medicine. To review proposed content specifications and clinical requirements for these disciplines, please refer to <https://www.arrt.org/News/> for specific.

There are significant and impactful changes that the ARRT is proposing for radiography and we would like to gather as many great minds as possible to discuss details and concerns. Comments from the session will be compiled and submitted to the ARRT. The Education Committee is asking those that will be attending to review the proposed changes prior to the event and come ready to converse. If you are not able to attend, we encourage you to review and submit to ARRT your individual comments by the specified deadlines.

Pre-registration for this event will be available in a few weeks at <http://www.osrt.org>. The cost for the open Forum will be \$15.00 for OSRT members and \$20 for non-OSRT members and lunch will be provided.



OSRT Phone Number <b>440-382-5607</b>
OSRT Website <a href="http://www.osrt.org">www.osrt.org</a>

### *A Note from the Editor*

*Please feel free to submit articles for Cardinal Ray's to me at*

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

*Thanks!*

*Leisa Arnold, Cardinal Rays Editor*

