

2018 TECH OF THE YEAR



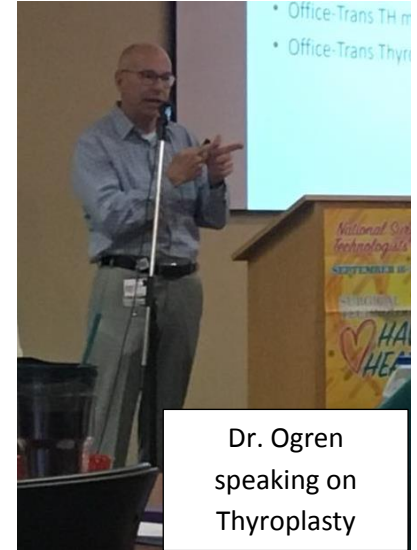
Each year the NESAs recognize one outstanding CST from around the state as the Tech of the Year. The Tech of the Year award was initiated in 2006 to recognize an exceptional CST for their

contributions to the profession of surgical technology and the difference they make in their patient's lives on a daily basis. Past recipients of the Tech of the Year award include: 2006-Brenda Deaver, 2007-Sharon Vinsonhaler, 2008-Cathy Hemmer, 2009-Kathy May, 2010-Marlene Wagner, 2011-Karen Ellicott, 2012-Amy Zuhlke, 2013-Sharon Rehn, 2014-Donna Ryan, 2015- Karyn Shotkoski, 2016-Anne Moats, and 2017-Holly Fritsche. Congrats to all the CSTs who have previously received this prestigious award! This year's recipient is Joni Philippi of Hastings. Joni has been a Certified Surgical Technologist as well as a member of AST for almost 33 years. She is described as hardworking, calming, easy to get along with, accommodating and passionate with all aspects of her care. Joni demonstrates leadership on a daily basis through their expertise in the GYN specialty. She takes the extra time out of her day to teach or in-service her fellow staff on any scrubbing techniques, upcoming changes, or any tips or tricks with no questions asked (even though their time is limited). Joni is unique in the fact that not only does she scrub for a GYN group, she also performs many duties in the office. She knows first-hand what surgeries are performed and can predict any upcoming complications during surgery related to the patient's diagnosis. This comes in handy to complete accurate surgery insurance authorizations in a timely fashion. Joni always has the patient's best interest at heart. Not only is she ALWAYS prepared for the procedures, she is consistently watching over the patient's positioning to be that second or third pair of eyes for the patient. Joni is a prime example of what anyone in surgery should strive to be. She demonstrates many if not all the qualities a surgical technologist needs to perform the job well. Congratulations Joni!! Thank you for your continued dedication to your patients and the profession of surgical technology!

AUGUST 5TH WORKSHOP A SUCCESS!

The 2018 summer workshop of the Nebraska State Assembly was held Saturday August 4, 2018 at CHI-Lakeside in Omaha.

Presentations included Melissa Fischer MSN, RN, CNOR-Senior Manager, Clinical Education North America Education Solutions, Johnson & Johnson speaking on Surgical Plume, Fred Ogren, MD, FACS-ENT speaking on Thyroplasty, Gregg Drabek, MD, FACS-General Surgery speaking on Robotic Inguinal Hernia Repair, and Ann Hike, RN BSN-KCI Senior Territory Manager speaking on Wound Vacs, Euclid deSouza, MD, FACS speaking on Management of Kidney



Dr. Ogren speaking on Thyroplasty



Attendees practice placing wound vacs

Stones and Treatment of Male Incontinence and Erik Otterberg, MD speaking on Pre, Intra, and Post-op Management of the Total Joint

Replacement Patient. 6 continuing education credits were offered to attendees. Attendance was 46 attendees. Thank you to Sarah Shackelford who worked tirelessly on the preparations for the event. Thank you to all who attended! We hope to see you again at the next state assembly workshop!



SAVE THE DATE!

The date for the 2019 Winter Workshop and Annual Meeting with elections of the Nebraska State Assembly has been set for Saturday March 2, 2019 at the Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha, NE. Attendees will receive 6 continuing education credits pending AST approval and more details will be posted to the Facebook page, website and sent out to members via email as they develop. Elections for the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer and 2 Board of Directors as well as 6 delegates and 6 alternates to represent the Nebraska State Assembly at the 2019 AST National Conference will occur as well. Please save the date and plan to join us for a great workshop!



PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, TREASURER, 2 BOARD OF DIRECTOR & 6 DELEGATE POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION AT 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Nebraska State Assembly will be held on March 2, 2019 at Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha. Offices that will be up for election are President, Vice President, Treasurer and 2 Board of Directors. Each of these positions will be elected for a 2 year term. Eligibility for the offices of President, Vice President, and Treasurer requires one year of prior active membership status (being a member of AST and a current CST) while director positions require one year of membership status where a portion of the year can include membership as a student but at the time of election the member must be a current CST as well as a member of AST. Members wishing to step up and serve in the Nebraska State Assembly will need to complete a consent to serve and curriculum vitae which can be found on the Nebraska State Assembly website at <http://ne.ast.org/> These forms should then be sent to state assembly president Casey Glassburner at cglassburner@southeast.edu. We will also be electing 6 delegates and 6 alternates who will represent the Nebraska State Assembly at the 2019 AST National Conference in National Harbor, Maryland. Members can also complete paperwork and run from the floor on the day of the meeting. Please consider stepping up to serve your state assembly!

NATIONAL SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS WEEK SET FOR SEPTEMBER 16-22, 2018



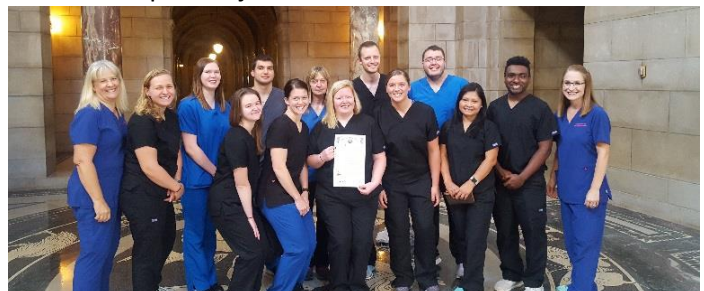
In 1984 the AST Board of Directors dedicated the third week in September to recognize surgical technologists and the profession of surgical technology. This event will be celebrated this year

during the week of September 16-22nd. This week is a time to celebrate and to educate everyone you know about the awesome profession you are a part of and the difference you make in your patients' lives every day!

Here are some ways to celebrate:

- Answer your phone with "Happy Surgical Technologists Week"
- Add "Surgical Technologists Week" to your email signature
- Wear Surgical Technologist apparel in public
- Hold an O.R. open house for the benefit of hospital employees and the public
- Ask your hospital newsletter staff to write an article about Surgical Technologists in your facility
- Throw a party or a pot luck lunch
- Attend a proclamation signing

The proclamation signing for the state of Nebraska by Governor Pete Ricketts will occur on Wednesday September 17th at 11:00am in the Warner Chamber of the state capitol building in Lincoln. Please save the date and plan to join us for this celebration!



2017 Proclamation Signing

2019 AST NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Dates for the 2019 AST National Conference at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland have been set for May 29-June 1st. We are always looking for state assembly members to serve as delegates/alternates at AST National Conference and will be electing these positions at the winter 2019 workshop. Mark your calendars now if you are interested in attending and representing your state assembly.



3 FREE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS AVAILABLE ON THE AST WEBSITE

3 Free Continuing Education credits are now available for AST members on the AST website.

To earn these CEs you must:

- Login as a member
- Click Earn CE Now
- Under "Continuing Education Resource Center", click on Skip to Free CE Credits
- At the top of the screen there will be a couple of tests that are free to take. They will say the word FREE in the title.
- As soon as you pass the exam, it will automatically be put into your CE history

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2019 SUMMER WORKSHOP!

The date for the 2019 summer workshop of the



Nebraska State Assembly has been set for Saturday August 3, 2019 at CHI-Good Samaritan in Kearney. Attendees will receive 6 continuing education credits pending AST approval. More details regarding the workshop will be posted to the Facebook page, website and sent out to members via email as they develop. We hope to see you all on August 3rd!