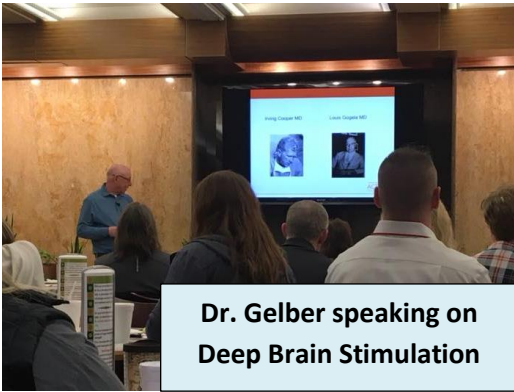




Nebraska State Assembly of AST Spring 2018 Newsletter



2018 WINTER WORKSHOP AND ANNUAL MEETING A HUGE SUCCESS!



Dr. Gelber speaking on Deep Brain Stimulation

The winter 2018 workshop of the Nebraska State Assembly was held March 3, 2018 in Lincoln at the Lincoln

Surgical Hospital. Attendance was 77 people! Speakers for the workshop included Dr. Dugas speaking on Supraclavicular Capsule Reconstruction, Dr. Clare speaking on Mako Total Knee Arthroplasty, Dr. Zysset speaking on Diagnosis & Treatment of Facial Injuries, Dr. Wallace speaking on Surgical Management of Osteogenesis Imperfecta, Dr. Samani speaking on Operative Fixation of Pelvic Fractures and Dr. Gelber speaking on Deep Brain Stimulation Tools and Techniques. Attendees received 6 continuing education credits.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2018 SUMMER WORKSHOP!



The date for the 2018 summer workshop of the

Nebraska State Assembly has been set for Saturday August 4, 2018 at CHI-Lakeside in Omaha. Several speakers for the workshop have been secured and include 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. 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 4th!

NEW BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED AT 2018 ANNUAL MEETING



Board members Karen Gascoigne, Heather Salmen & Sarah Shackelford being sworn in

The Nebraska State Assembly held elections for the offices of Secretary and three Board of Directors at the 2018 annual meeting on March 3, 2018. Delegates to represent the Nebraska State Assembly at the 2018 AST National Conference in Orlando, FL were elected as well. The results of these elections were: Secretary- Jamie Walker, Board of Directors- Karen Gascoigne, Heather Salmen, & Sarah Shackelford, Delegates- Christy Grant, Candace Gerber, Rick Horne & Janet McAdams. Congratulations to all newly elected board members and delegates! Thank you for your service and participation in the leadership of the Nebraska State Assembly!

2018 AST NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Dates for the 2018 AST National Conference in Orlando, FL have been set for May 31st –June 2nd. The conference will be held at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin 1500

Epcot Resorts Boulevard Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830. Attendees can earn 17 education credits or more by attending. Attendees are able to network with nearly 2,000 colleagues and attend educational events specifically targeted to the profession. Almost 100 exhibitors will also be present demonstrating the latest technology and instrumentation. Mark your calendars now if you are interested in attending and representing your state assembly. 2019 AST National Conference has been set for May 29-June 1, 2019 at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland.

2018 SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST OF THE YEAR



2017 Surgical Technologist of the Year –Holly Fritsche

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!

The 2018 Surgical Technologists of the Year will be awarded during the summer workshop which will be held August 4th, 2018 at CHI-Lakeside in Omaha. Nomination forms are currently being accepted to recognize this outstanding surgical technologist.

Eligibility:

- Must be a current member of NESAs and AST.
- Must be nationally certified.
- Must have practiced in the surgical technology field for 3 years.
- Must have a good attitude, compatibility, and pride in their work, willingness to do more than is required and be dedicated to their profession.
- The technologist, who is nominated, should be recognized for accomplishments over and above normal requirements of performance.

The winner will receive a plaque and registration to two workshops of the Nebraska State Assembly.

Nomination forms can be found on the state assembly website and the state assembly Facebook page. Please submit nomination forms to President Casey Glassburner at nebraskastateassembly@gmail.com.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

LB360 to establish a surgical technologist registry was introduced by Senator Kolterman in January 2017. At the end of the 2017 session the bill did not advance out of the Health and Human Services Committee but carried over into the 2018 session. LB360 creates a mandatory registry for all surgical technologists in the state requiring graduation from an accredited surgical technology program or passage of a competency assessment to establish minimum competence standards for the profession that do not currently exist. LB360 also requires surgical technologists to submit to mandatory reporting to be able to protect patients from harm. In an attempt to foster support for the legislation regarding the need for regulation of the profession, members of the committee were invited to visit an actual operating room to visualize surgical technologists in action. Confusion regarding the role of the surgical technologist has continued to exist. Several Senators took advantage of this opportunity and found the experience very beneficial.

LB360 advanced out of the Health and Human Services committee with no opposition on January 30th and was then added to LB731 which is a Health and Human Services Committee priority bill as an amendment. We anticipate this bill will move out of the committee to be debated on the floor within the next couple of weeks. Please be contacting your local state Senator and asking for their support of this initiative to improve surgical patient care in Nebraska. Thank you for your support of the legislative efforts of the Nebraska State Assembly!