

NEVADA NEWS

Nevada State Society of American Medical Technologists



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Disclaimer

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AMT website: www.americanmedtech.org

NVSSAMT website: <https://www.americanmedtech.org/Be-Involved/State-Societies/Nevada-State-Society>

Now you can find NVSSAMT on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/nvssamt>

Directory of NVSSAMT Officers, and Others...

President and Editor

Juanita Stocke, MT

Vice-President

Terry Ann Else, MT

Secretary

Naomi Marquez, MT

Treasurer

Della Goodwin, RMA

Board Members

Tori Ross, RPT, RMA

Diana Diaz, RMA

Ronaldo Deang, MT

Lurleen Chivrell, RPT, RMA

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Western District Councillor's Message

May 2020—edited/updated for current events from February

Another year has come and gone—where did 2019 go? Everything is starting to bloom; spring is on its way and snow is melting. It is now time for the February meeting of the National BOD and all of the District Councillor's. This meeting is always filled with information.

The National meeting will not be held this year. However, the annual business meeting and necessary preceding meetings will be held online from July 15-16, 2020. It will be

good to do our business and reconnect with our AMT family even virtually. Here is some additional information I would like to share with you:

- Be sure to track your CCP's with AMTrax as about 10% of members get audited—don't lose your membership by not tracking.
- Award recipients have been selected. Check the AMT home page for a list.
- Convention for 2021 will be held in Norfolk Virginia, hotel to be determined.
- Leadership training will not be held this year, but do make plans to attend in 2021 for training.
- Reminder for your state meetings: you need to get all your scientific speakers pre-approved through Maggie Highland at mhighland@americanmedtech.org at least 1-2 weeks prior to the meeting.
- If you haven't completed or updated your state by-laws please do so; they must go to Kim Chevront, Judiciary Chair, for approval prior to posting them on website. Once approved, please send me a copy also.
- Your state society publications are online so do visit your state web page, there will only be 2 years' worth from now on.
- AMT launched Online Communities; check AMT's home page for information.

It remains my privilege to serve you.

Sheryl Rounsivill RMA, RPT, CMAS, AHI
Western District Councilor



President's Message

May 2020

Here it is, May already! Who knew last November all the changes we would experience since then —and are still seeing taking place all around us. It seems that things change daily sometimes.....

For us who work in our small hospital laboratory, things did change daily in early April. If you don't know where I work, I work just over the border—about 40 miles from our home—in Truckee, California. Like some of you, our workload has been reduced by almost half by not having as many outpatients or physician office visits. We have had our busy times—just one or two very ill emergency room and/or ICU patients can make the 1-3 MTs on a shift very busy, as well as our lab assistants. In addition to “regular” lab tests, we also run all the blood gases for the hospital—that either are collected (ABGs) by a respiratory therapist, or (VBGs) by an RN or lab assistant/phlebotomist. Our supervisor has given us a “heads up” that, since our hospital will be resuming elective procedures and surgeries the day after Mother's Day to be prepared for being suddenly much busier than we have been for awhile. Which for me right now is tomorrow, so I'll see how it goes then.

Remember to check our Facebook page for current information—we will be trying to give you updates there on what is going on with our state society, or posting the occasional relevant news item. And, just a reminder that our website has moved to AMT's website. The link is: <https://www.americanmedtech.org/Be-Involved/State-Societies/Nevada-State-Society>

If it is allowed, we are planning to hold our state Fall Scientific and Business Meeting on Friday, September 18, 2020. Our board meeting will be the evening before on September 17, 2020. We always welcome any member at our board meeting for their valuable input!

Have a great summer! Thank you for your support!

Juanita Stocke, MT(AMT)
President, NVSSAMT



Our last trip, December 2019
Unknown volunteer photographer ;)



Communication and Preparation

During World War II, we were surprised and attacked by the Japanese Empire at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. A series of miscommunications and blunders appeared to make this tragedy worse. Not long after this, a battle took place at Midway that turned the tide of the war. At the heart of both of these was communication and preparation. The Japanese prepared extensively and acted decisively while we only reacted in a totally unorganized way. The second battle at Midway came after we lost a carrier at the Coral Sea and another was damaged—we thought beyond repair. It was brought back in just 72 hours as it was needed, and it was underway in record time. The intelligence and communication after this improved, and then we were the ones who prepared and communicated and were waiting for the Japanese when they attacked at Midway. We destroyed all the carriers they had brought and turned them back.

What does this have to do with the current pandemic? Everything! as a former medical research soldier, I had masks and gloves. I understood the transmission rates and logarithmic spread. I advised and educated others on the best course of action, and calmed and helped others. Despite everything I knew, I was a victim in a most common way. Through a series of relatives ending with my daughter, I got infected because I did not take my own precautions. It was early in February and traced back to my ex-wife's sister who was an American Airlines flight attendant who got it from a cruise ship passenger returning from Hong Kong.

In our professional lives as healthcare workers we know the common risks, but we sometimes overlook the obvious. Just like at Midway, I want all of you to reassess your workplace, your contacts and your family preparedness, and learn lessons from them. If you have lost friends or relatives as I have, do not let fear or reaction drive your actions. Be professional, as we are all needed. We deserve the best protection, and our patients deserve our best knowledge and work currently. Thanks from the public will wind down. We all need to contact our city, county, state and federal officials collectively so we can use our leverage to improve our laws and our patients' defense. Laboratorians need to tell the governments that we are equal to doctors and nurses as healthcare providers according to JCAHO. AMT is much better prepared because we are founded and staffed with military and retired military people and we need to press this home to our authorities who prefer ASCP because they have no experience in pandemics or with triage. I know it seems a bad time, but while we are at home and we have the ear of our politicians it is the perfect storm.

We can never be unprepared like this again and we need to work together to make things strong. I propose we have a new state representative in our group to deal with this specifically. If someone is better qualified, then step up. I care about our society and the health and safety of our membership.

Take care and be safe, along with your families. Please remember my comrades and our colleagues on Memorial Day.

John A. Garrard, MT(AMT), MS, US Army(ret), Past NVSSAMT President



Infectious Diseases throughout time

Match the Infectious Disease to the Year.

165 A.D.; Symptoms included fever, sore throat, diarrhea and if patient lived long enough, pus-filled sores. Took the life of Emperor Marcus Aurellius.

541 A.D.; First appearing in Egypt, it spread through Palestine and the Byzantine Empire. Over next two centuries it would kill about 50 million people, about 26% of the population.

11th Century; A slow-developing bacterial disease that causes sores and deformities.

1350; Responsible for the death of 1/3 of the World's population. The second largest outbreak of the bubonic plague.

1665; The Bubonic plague struck again, led to the death of 20% of London's population.

1817; The first of seven _____ pandemics over the next 150 years. Affects the small intestine and originated in Russia.

1918; The avian-borne flu resulted in 50 million deaths worldwide. The flu threat disappeared in the summer of 1919.

1957; Started in Hong Kong and spread throughout China. A second wave followed in early 1958. A vaccine was developed to contain the pandemic.

1981; It destroys a person's immune system. 35 million people worldwide have died since its discovery. No cure has been found.

2003; It is characterized by respiratory problems, dry cough, fever and head and body aches. China was criticized for trying to suppress information about the virus.

2019; Symptoms include respiratory problems, fever and cough. The doctor who released safety information to the world was convicted of a crime and died from the disease.

* Antonine Plague

* Asian Flu

* The Black Death

* Cholera

* COVID-19

* The Great Plague of London

* HIV/AIDS

* Justinian Plague

* Leprosy

* SARS

* Spanish Flu



Board Member Spotlight

Tori Ross, RMA, RPT

Hello! My name is Tori Ross. I have been with AMT since 2008. I am a Certified Medical Assistant and a Registered Phlebotomy Technician. I am currently a stay at home mom of two kids. I sit on the Nevada State AMT Board as a board member. My goal is to go back to Medical School once my kids are a little older. I would like to get my Physician's Assistant certification. I hope you are all doing well in these uncharted times. Stay positive!

Note from the Editor: Tori is the genius behind all the newsletter puzzles and the Infectious Disease match on the previous page. She also makes very welcome suggestions and contributions to all of our board meetings.

Inspirational Corner

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." —Jesus

John 10:10, ESV



Tori Ross and kids :)
Photo taken by Tori Ross

Editorial

Here we are, already in the second quarter of 2020! It's hard to believe it's already May—after all, I saw someone's post on Facebook that was something to this effect: It has been an unusual year so far, February had 29 days, March had 5 weeks, and April seems like 5 months..... or maybe it was 5 years. At any rate, this year is not the year that any of us expected when it began. Please remember to take care of yourself during this time—get lots of rest, proper nutrition—plenty of those "rainbow-colored" veggies!, exercise, keep hydrated, remember to be temperate in all things, get out in the sunshine and fresh air, and put your trust in God—He does want the best for you! And be sure to ask for help if you need it. We will get through this.

Juanita Stocke, Editor

Infectious Diseases throughout time - KEY

Match the Infectious Disease to the Year.

165 A.D.; Symptoms included fever, sore throat, diarrhea and if patient lived long enough, pus-filled sores. Took the life of Emperor Marcus Aurelius. **Antonine Plague**

541 A.D.; First appearing in Egypt, it spread through Palestine and the Byzantine Empire. Over next two centuries it would kill about 50 million people, about 26% of the population. **Justinian Plague**

11th Century; A slow-developing bacterial disease that causes sores and deformities. **Leprosy**

1350; Responsible for the death of 1/3 of the World's population. The second largest outbreak of the bubonic plague. **The Black Death**

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1981; It destroys a person's immune system. 35 million people worldwide have died since its discovery. No cure has been found. **HIV/AIDS**

2003; It is characterized by respiratory problems, dry cough, fever and head and body aches. China was criticized for trying to suppress information about the virus. **SARS**

2019; Symptoms include respiratory problems, fever and cough. The doctor who released safety information to the world was convicted of a crime and died from the disease. **Covid - 19**

Mark Your Calendar!

2020

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|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| September 17 | NVSSAMT Board meeting, Reno |
| July 17 | AMT Virtual Business Meeting |
| September 18 | Scientific & Business Meeting, Reno |

2021

- | | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| July | AMT Annual Meeting, Norfolk, VA |
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Our Mission:

To promote the National Standards of healthcare and laboratory sciences within the state.

To provide opportunity for increasing technical knowledge of our members.

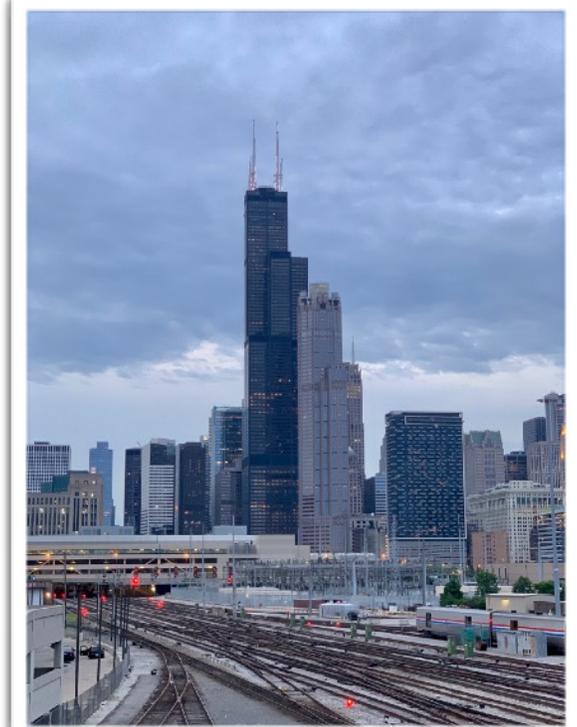
To support both National and State organizational goals.

Memories from AMT's 2019 Summer meeting

A favorite pic—Guess the microbes!



4th of July



Chicago skyline