



THE NEW

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AMT
American Medical Technologists
Certifying Excellence in Allied Health



Fall is passing by and winter is on the way in Virginia.
Picture by Patty Harris

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Picture by Patty Harris

The Magnolia event took place Oct 19-20 in Gulfport MS. It was a GREAT meeting!!! There

were 9 members from Virginia that took part as moderators for the sessions. There was a total of 20 sessions covering RMA, MLT & MT disciplines. There were about 119 AMT members from several southern states that attended to make the experience wonderful. The speakers were well prepared, and each session lasted approximately 50 minutes. The total number of CE units that an individual could bring home was 6 on Friday & 7 on Saturday. The wine and cheese auction and the raffle made enough for 2 student scholarship. Our speakers were all outstanding! They were very knowledgeable, and our subjects were extremely relevant. Great job by the MET committee for our Scientific Educational meeting.... Hope to see everyone at the next meeting in 2 years.....rumor has it that it might be in the Caribbean...???!
Finally, I would like to say a big "Thank-You!" to the VASSAMT members.

Anna Catron, MT (AMT) HEW
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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Patty Harris, MT (AMT)



Picture by Patty Harris' camera

VASSAMT just had their elections at the Magnolia Educational Meeting in October and I was proud to be elected as the new VASSAMT treasurer. I am proud to still serve as the editor for the VASSAMT newsletter that comes out twice a year. This newsletter is very important because news of what is going on in our state society is presented. Our state society has fun at our meetings but important decisions are made that will affect our members so we encourage you to join us at our business and board meetings. This is your society and we would like to see more members voice their opinion.

We are planning the spring meetings with dates and a location to announce soon. The meetings are planned for March 2019 with the location of the Virginia Beach area. We encourage you to make plans to attend. We look forward to a wonderful educational program and seeing new and old friends.

I am only a phone call away at 336-657-1770 or email pattyharris@skybest.com if I am needed.



Picture from Kaye Tschop

Fall 2018 Southern District Councillor's Message

AMT's 80th Educational Meeting and Educational Program was held at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. There were 415 registered members, guests and students in attendance. The weather was typical for July, *hot and humid*. What a special treat to be in our nation's capital on the 4th of July watching fireworks over the Potomac River with your AMT friends and family. It doesn't get any better than that!

AMT's 81st Educational Program and National Meeting will be in Chicago, Illinois at the Chicago Hilton Hotel 720 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 6060 July 1-5, 2019. Room rates will be \$ 129 + tax single or double occupancy. Plan your vacation around the AMT national meeting as there is so much to see and do in Chicago. AMT's 2020 meeting will be held in the Western District.

Award recipients from the Southern District received their awards at the awards banquet in Washington, DC as follows: CuvIELLO Commitment to Excellence Award Dr. Georgia McCauley, MT – North Carolina; Pride of the Profession – Solomon Goldenberg, RMA – Florida; Becky Award – Christopher Seay, MT Tennessee; O. C. "Skip" Skinner Armed Services Award Charlene Lynch, RMA – North Carolina; GEM Award Dr. Paul C. Brown, D. Min, MT – Alabama, David McCullough, MT – North Carolina (posthumous); Exceptional Merit - Nettie L. Norphleet, MS, RMA – Alabama; Pillar Award - Judy Fortune, RMA – Kentucky, Harry Narine, MT, RPT – CASMET; Distinguished Achievement - Sherry M. Blevins, RMA – Tennessee, Khalil L. Lucky, RPT – CASMET; Silver Service – Martha Duncan, MT – Tennessee; Friend of AMT Award Colan "Jay" Macomber – Florida; Legacy Tribute – Jackie Cooper (CASMET); Publication Awards - Journal 2nd Place – *Alabama Alatech* – Nettie Norphleet, Editor; Newsletter 2nd Place – Florida -*Florida News for Allied Health Professionals* – Kathleene Hardy, Editor, 3rd Place – North Carolina – *The Tarheel Tech* Tommie Williams, MT, Editor; Honor Roll State Societies - Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. Norman Frankel Outstanding Student Awards - Medical Assistant Student Katherine Williamson, Miller Motte College, Cary, NC; Student Technical Writing Award 1st Place 1st Place: Jennifer Preuss Osborne, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC "Does Knowledge Equal Power with HBCU Students?". Congratulations to each of you. You have worked tirelessly for your state society and AMT and are so deserving of your award. I am proud of all your accomplishments.

Three new members were elected to the Board of Directors. Harry Narine, MT, RPT - CASMET, Martha Hinkel, MT - Rocky Mountain and Francine Orin, RMA-Central Plains were elected to their first term. Your AMT Officers are President: Jeannette Hobson, RMA, RPT, CMAS, AHI; Vice President: Christopher Seay, MT Secretary: Deborah Westervelt, RMA, COLT and Treasurer: Ken Hawker, MT.

Medical Assistants Recognition Week (MARW) is October 15-19, 2018. Registered Medical Assistants (RMA) will be celebrating the theme “Medical Assistants: At the Heart of Healthcare” Download the 2018 logo and promo kit from the AMT website and help get the word out in your state.

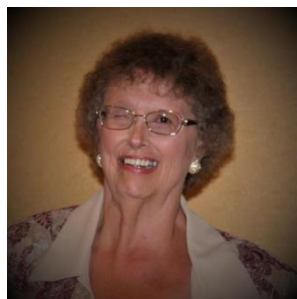
Check out the newly released AMTrax video – Quick Guide to AMTrax for CCP, now available for viewing on YouTube. It is about nine minutes in length and is a step-by-step instructional video on how to log your continuing education on AMTrax.

CASMET will hold their Biennial General Meeting & Scientific Symposium October 14-18, 2019 at the Radisson Hotel Trinidad. The Magnolia Educational Treasures (MET) will be held October 19-20, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Gulfport Airport in Gulfport, Mississippi.

AMT continues to work on strategic planning for the organizations sound future. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to email me at k9kid@bellsouth.net or phone me at (h) 615-833-3427 or (c) 615-424-0550.

Respectfully submitted,
Kaye A. Tschop, MT (AMT)
Southern District Councillor



Kaye is always smiling and ready to help AMT.
Picture used with permission of Kaye Tschop

**Legislative Message
By Patty Harris, MT (AMT)**

One important issue being discussed by AMT is the proposed changes to CLIA 1988. AMT has made their comments concerning these changes so we should all watch for news because this will affect all of us. Our legal counsel Mr. McCarty is always watching for legislature affecting the laboratory and especially AMT so we can be assured that he is on top of this issue.

**Value Added Services
A Management Article**

By Patty Harris, MT (AMT)

If today's laboratories and hospitals are going to survive and be profitable we must provide value added services to our customers at the lowest possible cost. The needs and expectations of our customers are essential. Customer service is a huge priority so all employees must receive training in customer relations. This is just one more demand made on laboratories that are already understaffed and overworked.

Delegate Report

80th National AMT Educational Program and Educational Meeting

It was great to spend time with our VSSAMT members and National AMT family and friends at the Nation's Capital, Washington, DC.

The week was filled with very informative educational programs and a lot of knowledge being shared by AMT members and other distinguished quest.

The VASSAMT members were busy comparing for Anna Catron, MT (our state President), who ran for a National Board position. There were four great candidates and Anna did not get elected. But, she had a good showing of votes and made herself know this year. I hope she will run again next year.

This year's recipient for the Dusty Rhodes Life Award was Jeannie Hobson, RMA from California. She is a very deserving recipient representing Leadership, Initiative, Friendship, and Erudition. The VASSAMT was sad to let the attendees know that there would not be a raffle for a homemade quilt this year because Nancy Barrow's mother, Lela Bowles the talented quilt maker passed away at the age of 96. Mrs. Bowles was a beautiful lady and loved by all that knew her. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Thursday was the special day for the AMIE meeting, Town Hall, reading of reports, and the seating of the delegates. The Board positions for the different disciplines are filled during this time. Also,

any by-law changes are considered and voted on by the delegates. The VASSAMT delegates were excited over meeting two new Virginia members, Brandy Courson and Jean Ragland. We are looking forward to seeing them at our next state meeting. The “Pride of the Profession “makes me proud to be a member of the American Medical Technologists. This is my 50th year as a member. I encourage you as a member to become active and participate on the State and National levels.

Linda Sotak, BS, MT (AMT)



Linda Sotak at the convention
Picture by Patty Harris

**Delegate Report by Don Bouchelle, MT (AMT)
AMT National Convention in Washington, D.C. July 2018**

Don Bouchelle at one of sessions
Picture by Patty Harris



As a Virginia delegate and member of the Scientific/Speakers Committee, I was very pleased to see two of my topic suggestions presented this year. The session on the opioid crisis and session on geriatric care were my suggestions and the speakers did a great job with these topics. I thought this year’s sessions presented an exceptionally diverse group of topics. These sessions were specific for some disciplines as well as general knowledge which made this convention well worth the time to attend.

Delegate Report
By Anna Catron

It is always an honor to attend the National Meeting! This year was certainly no exception. I was blessed to have an opportunity to run for the National Board and although I did not get elected, I was certainly honored to be nominated for the very important seat. I was also honored to meet 2 new wonderful young ladies that are interested in participating on a State level for the Virginia Board. I look forward to working with them with the vision of making our State Society grow and become significant in the certifying process for techs across the state and ultimately across our country.

The educational aspect of this year's meeting was exceptionally good. I enjoyed every session that I attended. AMT staff formed a bus trip to the Wharf to watch fireworks on July 4. The fireworks were beautiful and the company of my colleagues was fantastic! On July 5, after a very busy day of meetings and the election, I was able to take a monument tour. DC is certainly something for all Americans to be proud to visit. We are blessed in spite of our differences.

I hope we all make plans to go to Chicago for the 2019 National meeting. If you are from Virginia, please let me know if you plan to be there.....you won't regret it!

Anna Catron, MT

VSSAMT President & Delegate to National Convention

Delegate Report

By Patty Harris, MT (AMT)

It is always a pleasure to attend the AMT National Conventions. The fellowship with the members and the learning experiences are exceptional. This year one of my favorites because I love the history available in Washington, D.C... The 4th of July holiday added to the memories with the fireworks over the Potomac River.

This year I was chosen for the Future Planning Committee and this was an educational event. I never realized just how much work went into this organization to keep it running smoothly. The other committee members made this a good experience for me.

Every year the educational sessions seem to get better and this year was no exception. They were all so good I can't begin to pick a favorite. The presenters all made wonderful educational presentations. I am already looking forward to next year in Chicago because I enjoy seeing old friends.

Delegate Report

By Bob Lindsey, MT (AMT)

Outstanding educational sessions, good fellowship and seeing old friends made the week of the AMT National Convention a pleasant memory. I have attended many AMT conventions but each one has different outstanding memories.

Looking forward to been a part of the next meeting.

AMT National Convention 2018

By Patty Harris

The National AMT Convention is full of memories that can best be described with pictures.
Pictures by Patty Harris or with her camera



Every year VASSAMT presents a deserving AMT member with the Dusty Rhodes Life Award and this year the recipient was Jeannie Hobson, RMA from California.



VASSAMT delegates at the business meeting



Anna Catron , VASSAMT President with our Honor Roll Award

Magnolia Educational Treasures 2018

This year the VASSAMT joined with the Magnolia Educational Treasures to have their required annual educational meeting . The meeting was in Gulfport and the weather was wonderful.

Educational Treasures meeting was one of the most informative events that I have ever attended. The speakers were very relevant and knowledgeable. Everyone had a great time at the raffle to raise money for scholarships for students. It was a great time for all and I look forward to the next MET event.

Anna Catron Magnolia Educational Treasures Meeting President VASSAMT

New Members Kasey Waycholf, RMA, Brandy Courson, RMA, Jean Ragland, MT, and Teresa Reyes, MT went to Magnolia. We were proud to have these new members representing VASSAMT.



Hello to all! I am reporting on our recent educational meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi at the Magnolia Educational Treasures. I wish all of you could have attended! There was beautiful warm weather while we were there October 19 and 20, as well as an incredible group of speakers. One of the most interesting sessions was on tattoos and how the ink can "sequester" in your lymph nodes and liver. This can cause problems with MRI testing and with cancer diagnosis. On a positive note, biosensing tattoos can help with glucose detection, pH and sodium measurement. Another interesting session was the one I attended on aging. The speaker gave us insight in how to distinguish between "normal" memory loss and Alzheimer's disease or dementia. She emphasized that dementia is NOT a normal part of aging. She discussed four types of dementia: Alzheimer's, Lewy body dementia, frontotemporal disorders and vascular dementia. This is just a sampling of the type of lectures we heard and earned CEUs for!! Please plan to come and join us for our next state meeting and get involved. I wish to thank AMT and my state society for making it possible for me to attend.

Nancy Barrow, MT (AMT)



Beach in Gulfport. Picture by Anna Catron

New VASSAMT Email

Due to security issues VASSAMT has a new email address:

VASSAMT@gmail.com

Members can be reached through this email. We will forward emails to the correct person as needed.

Dates to Remember

VASSAMT Spring Business, Board, and Educational Meetings are being planned for March 15, 2019. Location will be in the Virginia Beach area. More plans to follow.

Annual Meeting 2019 Chicago, IL

Educational Program and National Meeting

July 1-5, 2019

**Chicago Hilton Hotel
720 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60605**