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WISCONSIN STATE SOCIETY

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Great Lakes District Councillor Message

Fall, 2019



Welcome to your AMT Councillor's message and if you are reading this, you are on your very own AMT state website or on the AMT state newsletter. It is always a joy to invite readers and web visitors to catch up on the AMT "news".

We had an outstanding AMT National Convention on July 1st through July 5th this year. We had 401 members in attendance in Chicago, Illinois. These members come to this once a year AMT National Convention from throughout the United States and internationally also.

Yes, it truly was an outstanding meeting. Why do I use this word "OUTSTANDING" over and over again?

Several reasons for the word, Outstanding:

- Keynote Speaker, Chip Madera at www.chipmadera.com
- AMT National Leadership and Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director
- AMT Education department
- AMT Scientific/Speaker Committee
- AMT Welcome party Committee
- AMT Executive Councillor and your District Councillors
- AMT Organization as a whole with its volunteer members

There are so many ways AMT is outstanding in its education and certification. Also, with the AMT National state societies it upholds. We had great speakers this year, please read your state newsletters for the delegate reports. We had several speakers from the Great Lakes District States, even one I work with closely in our MeryOne Family Medicine Clinic.

Tracy Mixdorf, D.O. She is a great supporter of AMT within this organization. She also sits on the RMA/EQS committee of AMT. There were over 80 people in attendance to listen to her talk (for those of you who attended, that was not me in the video, it was my look alike). Like many other speakers, there were very good subjects, workshops and real time news. Watch for next year's topics coming at the beginning of the year, 2020!

Many of the states in this district reached the goal of Honor Roll this year. The states are Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin. Indiana is up and coming with new revived leadership in place. We look forward to them meeting their goals soon. Congratulations to your individual states! It takes a team and you are all working together to meet your goals! Thank you.

The Great Lakes District had award winners for the GEM award, Heather Herring, MT, (Minnesota) past AMT National board member. Three winners in our Great Lakes for Distinguished Achievement Awards: Queen Bolden, RMA(Michigan), Kathy McPherson, RMA (Michigan) and Janice Goldsmith, MT (Indiana). One of three winners of the Pillar Award this year was myself, Bev Christiansen (Iowa), your Great Lakes District Councillor. I am truly honored and humbled to have received this award.

Congratulations to the current award winners!

Thank you to all involved with the award process, this is not an easy task for so many talented people to choose from within our AMT organization. Please let your leaders in your state know if you would like to be considered for an award through your AMT volunteerism and they will try to make this happen for you. You may be considered for these awards through involvement in the AMT membership, committees and leadership. You are welcome to join in at each state anytime. Please contact your leadership team and they will encourage you to begin your chance to be on the road to an award and great fellowship and networking. You may find your "Outstanding" leaders in your states on the www.americanmedtech.org website under state society and click on our state to navigate to the page.

Next Year's AMT National Convention and Annual Business meeting will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on July 13 to July 17, 2020. Yes, it is moved away from the July 4th holiday!

As a 20 plus year AMT member, I am humbled to be part of the AMT leadership team that is a liaison of our Great Lakes District states between the Executive Councilor, Edna Anderson, the AMT National Board and AMT National Office to the state societies in this district.

This is truly an honor to be delegated with this responsibility to help guide direction within these states.

As always, if you have either a delightful moment or would like to share some concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you, and Happy Fall!

Bev Christiansen, RMA
Great Lakes District Councillor
amtglc@gmail.com



Save the Date

American Medical Technologists 82nd Educational Program and National Meeting

Hyatt Regency
Albuquerque, NM

July 13-17, 2020

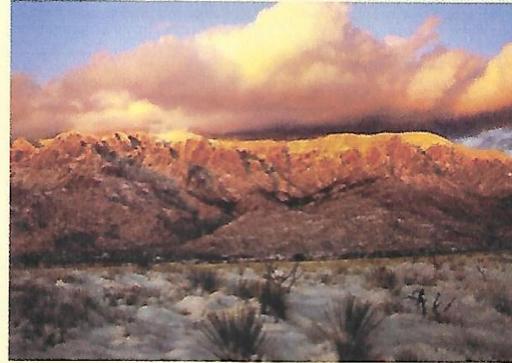
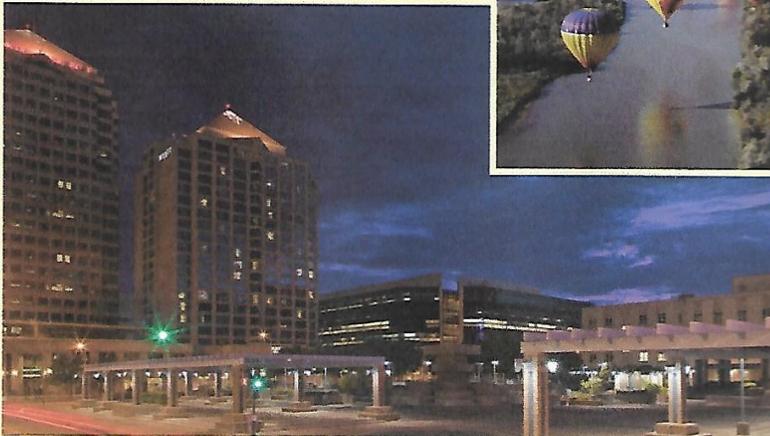
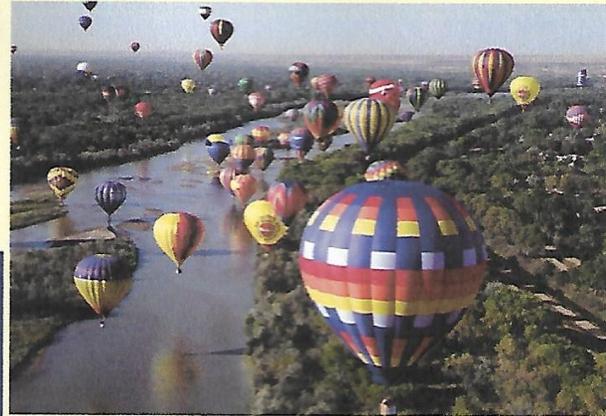


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Providing Care to Elderly Patients

The number of Americans over the age of 65 years is increasing. On average we are living longer. In healthcare, the elderly have specific needs. Effective communication during the interview is integral to the process and outcomes of medical care. Benefits of good communication can be preventing medical errors,

improved health outcomes, strengthen the patient-provider relationship, and make the most of limited interactive time.

Some tips for communicating with the elderly patients respectfully and effectively are:

Use proper form of address - do not use terms which tend to be patronizing.

Make older patients feel comfortable. In the waiting room, patients should have comfortable seating and if needed help filling out forms. If needed, the elderly should be escorted to and from exam rooms, restrooms, and waiting area.

Take a few moments to establish a good rapport. Introduce yourself clearly and do not speak too quickly. Be aware of cultural and ethnic background. Respect generational differences. Healthcare workers may need to cover up tattoos with long sleeves and remove facial piercings.

Try not to rush. Speak slowly. This helps with the patient understanding what is being said. Feeling rushed leads people to believe they are not being heard or understood.

Avoid interrupting.

Use active listening skills.

Write down take away notes. Avoid using ambiguous and complicated language.

Demonstrate empathy. It helps in terms of patient satisfaction, understanding, and adherence to treatment.

Avoid jargon. Check often to be sure that your patient understands what you are saying.

Reduce barriers to communication. Vision and hearing problems need to be treated and accounted for in communication. When communicating with elderly who have hearing loss, it is important to get their attention, reduce background noise, speak loudly, repeat yourself, and have good lighting.

The most common ailments the elderly experience include:

Heart conditions which include hypertension, CHF, and coronary artery disease which may lead to fatigue, and lack of physical strength.

Dementia includes memory loss, paranoia, aggression, agitation, and lack of self-care.

Delirium which includes shaking, a shortened attention span, and extreme mood swings.

Depression which may include sadness, irritability, fatigue, and feeling of worthlessness.

Written by Julie Lent, MT

References: Understanding How to Provide Care to Elderly Patients at www.ameritech.edu/blog/provide-care-elderly-patients
NIH National Institute on Aging – Understanding Older Patients at www.nia.nih.gov/health

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President's Message Hello Packer Fans-

Well, with much sadness on my part FALL is in the air. But that brings on the sound of football. I am a summer girl all the way. Hope you all had a wonderful summer. My family and I camped all of the state. We may have been in your neck of the woods. Where is your favorite place to camp?

Did anyone make it to the National Convention?? This past year Wisconsin made the Honor Roll. This is exciting. I hope that our society will continue to grow and meet the requirements for being on the Honor Roll. I hope to go next year. The AMT National Convention and Annual Business meeting will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on July 13 to July 17, 2020.

Wisconsin held the fall scientific meeting October 12th at the Holiday Inn, Kenosha/Pleasant Prairie followed by the annual business and board meetings. We had two great speakers present three topics. Topics presented were: Phlebotomy Follies, PTSD to PTSS presented by Jeff Lavender and The Reality of Faith in Healing Trauma presented by Robert Griffith.

A big thank you to Vanessa Villaneuva for all her hard work in obtaining the place and speakers for the meeting.

We are always looking for new active members. Please contact us at amtwisconsin@gmail.com.

Paula Kessler WI State President

Upcoming events

**AMT 82nd Educational Program and National Meeting
July 13 – 17, 2020 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.**



Editor's Message

Fall is here with all the beautiful colors. It seems like we didn't have much of a summer with all the rain. I hope the rain didn't hinder you from enjoying summer.

The Wisconsin society held the fall scientific and business meeting on October 12th in Pleasant Prairie. It was nice to see a few new faces at the meeting. I hope that more members can make the spring meeting. I didn't make the scientific meeting and it sounds like I missed out on some interesting sessions.

There will be a spring meeting in either March or April. Please watch for details on the meeting. E-mail information will be sent out at least one month in advance. Your voice in the operation of the society is very important. You can contact officers by going to amtwisconsin@gmail.com.



I have been editor of the newsletter for several years. It would be helpful to hear from members on what type of educational articles you would like presented in the newsletter. If you have written any articles that you would like published in the newsletter, please e-mail them to me at our g-mail address. I look forward to working with you to provide an interesting and informative newsletter.

Julie Lent, MT(AMT)
Editor



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