

Charting *Your* Course

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our annual business meeting and election in March was great, it was very well attended. The last few years we have grown from 200's in attendance to well into the 300's. We had many schools being represented, the students raffling and selling items to raise money for National Conference or graduation, they enjoyed the hands-on student track in the afternoon. The speakers really stepped it up and brought great information and education for us to take back and apply in our daily tasks. TXSA has grown, we are 3998 strong! Our hope is to continue to bring great education opportunities to you and get all our members involved! See you at the next workshop!

~ Kim McDuffie CST, AAS
President



NATIONAL SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST WEEK- SEPTEMBER 21ST 2018

WHAT DOES BEING A SURGICAL TECH MEAN TO YOU?



Being a Surgical Technologist is more than most can comprehend. A mere glance into our day would make most cringe, cry and scared, all at the same time. We are that patient's hope for a better life. We hold the hands of the surgeons who may or may not know what they want or need. We know. We keep them grounded and remind them of why they are there. When the patient wakes up, we are nowhere to be found. But we have left our mark. We are Surgical Technologists just charting our course.

~ *Stacy Rimes* TSA Board of Director

For the last seven years, I have had the privilege of sharing my love of conference with my students. This year's conference was attended by 10 members of my class. Every one of them came home with a better understanding of AST and the professional organization that will be with them throughout their careers! I cannot wait for Orlando!

~ *Cindy Mask* TSA Board of Director



AST Surgical Technology Conference 2017—a new name for our national conference that I have attended 21 of 22 my years a member of AST. I will never forget that first national conference I attended in Dallas and the opening ceremony. This year in New Orleans we visited a city that has hosted our national conference many times and once again, did not disappoint. Opening ceremony always fires up the attendees for the three-day conference event that starts with a keynote speaker along with the celebration of our profession, membership, and leaders of the AST network. Every member should attend at least one conference. Through the years, I became more involved at the state and national level while advancing my career to my current role as a surgical technology educator. For the past 15 years, students in my program have attended national conference and many have continued to return as practitioners. One of the great things about national conference is the recognition of students as our future at the Student Forum dedicated to helping them start a successful career. My favorite thing about national conference each year is getting to see all my friends from all over the United States. Each year I look forward to the hugs and conversations with my AST family. I catch up with old friends and what has been going on in their life along with meeting new friends that I will get to see in the future. The education sessions, exhibit hall with vendors, social events, and my duties as a Delegate in the Business Sessions/Election make it a busy, but also incredible experience.

~ Jeff Feix TSA Treasurer & Board of Director



THE PATIENT FIRST

Remember when you were a student or a new graduate? You wanted to do everything just right. Hopefully you are still in that mindset, but unfortunately many of us fall into bad habits once we start working. You see others cut corners, wiping down things before the patient leaves the room, opening things too quickly, not being mindful of expiration dates, and always feeling the pressure for the quickest TURNOVER. Does this mean that you should do it too?

We should all ask ourselves – is the patient first in my mind when I’m opening supplies, setting up my back table, draping the patient, gowning and gloving, passing instruments, working in SPD, pulling cases, cleaning a room, or the 100 other things we do? The patient should always be foremost in our thoughts and actions in how we uphold standards. In the midst of your day are you being the patient’s advocate? Powerful words spoken by one of my mentors, the late Don Braziel, that has always stayed with me is this, “You as the Surgical Technologist are the last defense that the patient has.”

“Aeger Primo – The Patient First” By Kim McDuffie CST, AAS

WHO REPRESENTS YOU?

President.....Kim McDuffie
Vice Pres.....Stefanie Steele-Galchutt
TreasurerJeff Faix
SecretaryStefanie Vaughn
Board Of Directors
Stacy Rimes Cindy Mask
Kathy Bahn Stefanie Vaughn
Jaime Lopez Patty Sooter

CONTACTS

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UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Port Arthur Workshop

January, 27th 2018
1800 Lake Shore Dr.
Port Arthur, TX 77641

Best Little Workshop In Texas- *The One Stop Shop!* **

March 3rd-4th 2018— 15 CE Credits

The Texas State Assembly hosts the Best Little Workshop in Texas each year. This year we are proud to announce we will be offering 15 CEUs. We are your One Stop Shop! At this work shop you will be able to learn about a variety of different specialties as well as meet with members of our board to express your opinions on current issues.

The Radisson Hotel Fossil Creek
2540 Meacham Blvd.
Fort Worth, Texas
76106

Midland/Odessa Workshop-

October 14th, 2018- **8 CE Credits pending AST approval**

500 W 4th St.
Odessa, TX 79761