



**Summer 2010**



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# The BEAM

**Mississippi Society of Radiologic Technologists**

**Affiliated with the American Society of Radiologic Technologists**

## Letter from the MSRT President:

*"Learn the past, watch the present, and create the future."*

In the past two years I have seen the MSRT do just that – create the future. Let us look back and see MSRT creating the future:

- New Licensure Bill – Thank you Mike for your hard work and dedication.
- MSRT was chosen by the ASRT for a Pilot program “Refocus”.
- Dana Aragon has met and worked with the MSRT for future plans.
- A mentoring program will be implemented giving interested individuals, students, and techs the opportunity to serve with present board members and officers.
- New tax laws and legislation are in effect for all districts and a restructuring of Mississippi has occurred.
- Conference is being planned - that is big work!
- The BEAM is on-line – great job Kristi Moore!!
- Don't forget RT in DC.

The Board of Directors, along with each of the district President, officers, and members, has been supportive of the changes and are looking to the future also. Everyone has considered each change as a stepping stone instead of a challenge because the MSRT is a kaleidoscope of professionals different in so many ways but working for a common goal.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as MSRT President. It has been and is my pleasure to serve with such a dedicated and knowledgeable Board. They are working hard to improve the MSRT and make it the best it can be. I hope all members of the MSRT feel the same and step up to help the MSRT become a stronger organization.

*"It isn't sufficient just to want –  
you've got to ask yourself  
what you are going to do to get the things you want."*

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

Thank you again,

Deborah Shell  
MSRT President

# **MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS**

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(To be decided at Conference)

### Alternate Student Delegate

(To be decided at Conference)

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## South District

## Inactive



North District

Central District

## **South District**

# **MSRT COMMITTEE CHAIRS, ETC. FOR 2009-2010**

---

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## **Sargeant-at-Arms**

Pending

## **Co-Editor – The Beam**

Pending

## District 2 Report

The speaker for the March 9, 2010 meeting was Jeff Ballard R.T.(R), BSN, CRLS. Mr. Ballard's presentation entitled "Basics of Shockwave Lithotripsy" included the history of lithotripsy, current applications, and insight from his years of experience in the field.

The District 2 Spring Seminar 2010 was held on April 17, 2010 at Itawamba Community College Tupelo Campus. The seminar provided an opportunity to acquire 6 hours of category A continuing education credit. Presentations were as follows: Stress Management by Jeff Ballard, How to Care for Families During Tragedy by Kevin Lindsey, Building a Professional Portfolio by Tamar Lucas, MRSA by Deborah Shell, Uncovering the Message of a Non-Verbal Adult by Deborah Shell, and My PHR by Nena Scott.

At the May 11, 2010 meeting, Nancy Adams delivered a presentation entitled "Morgue Operations in a Major Disaster." The presentation provided a history of the Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT) and highlighted her radiography experience in such disasters as hurricanes Rita and Katrina, as well as the Rhode Island nightclub fire of 2003.

The next MSRT District 2 meeting date and speaker are to be announced.

Ken Brame  
District 2 Reporter

## Care Bill Update

"Take charge of your attitude.  
Don't let someone else choose it for you."  
- Anonymous

The CARE bill has been introduced into the Senate. It is S-3737. Our state senators need to be contacted to urge them to sign on as co-sponsors. Please e-mail Senators Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker early and often encouraging them to support this much needed legislation.

Rep. Travis Childers from the 1<sup>st</sup> district and Rep. Gregg Harper from the 3<sup>rd</sup> still have not signed on as co-sponsors of the CARE bill. If they represent you, let them know how much we need them to get on board.

Mike Ketchum  
Chairman of the Board — MSRT

## In Loving Memory: Lyle Megginson

The MSRT was saddened to learn of the death of Lyle Megginson. Lyle was a good friend, supporter and contributor to the MSRT. He will be greatly missed. He leaves behind his wife of 21 years, Nita Megginson, Program Director of ICC Ultrasound Program, his son Reece, father Gray, two sisters and a host of relatives. Lyle, you will be greatly missed.



Lyle and Nita Megginson

## I Remember the Big Guy

I have known Lyle Megginson for a decade or two. I think the first time I met Lyle was at an MSRT function, prior to him and Nita getting married. I attended their lovely wedding which was the first time I ever witnessed bell ringers at a wedding. I will never forget the time at a Tupelo MSRT meeting when he dressed up in the womanless review. He was a sight.

He has always been a big guy with a big heart. Many times I visited him at his jewelry store. It was always quite obvious that Lyle loved his work, his friends, his MSRT friends, his family, and especially his wife and son. He was a very proud father. He would always come out from the back counter with his apron on to shake hands with me and what big hands they were! We would exchange jokes and he would, without fail, ask "How's Ms. Ruth, Brice, Roy, and Ben." Never one to stand still he would be working and moving constantly. He was genuinely sincere when asking, "How are you doing?"

I have numerous jewelry pieces that he custom made and he was always repairing something of mine. I think he liked repairs better than sells.

I will always remember him as a friend and a non-tech member of our MSRT. I will also remember his many contributions, such as door prizes, to the meetings and at the dances.

What a big guy with a big heart. His fall will resonate among MSRT members for a long time.



J.M. (Mark) Evans III  
RT-MR, MSRT Member



## **Proposed Bylaws Change:**

Article III, Membership, Section 3, Categories, paragraph E currently states:

Life members are active members who have rendered exceptional service to the MSRT. They shall be registered technologists selected by a majority vote at a regular meeting and shall have unanimous recommendation of those Board of Directors members present at the summer board meeting. They shall pay no dues and shall have all the rights and privileges of an active member. Life membership (if approved by the membership) will be awarded at the awards ceremony the following year.

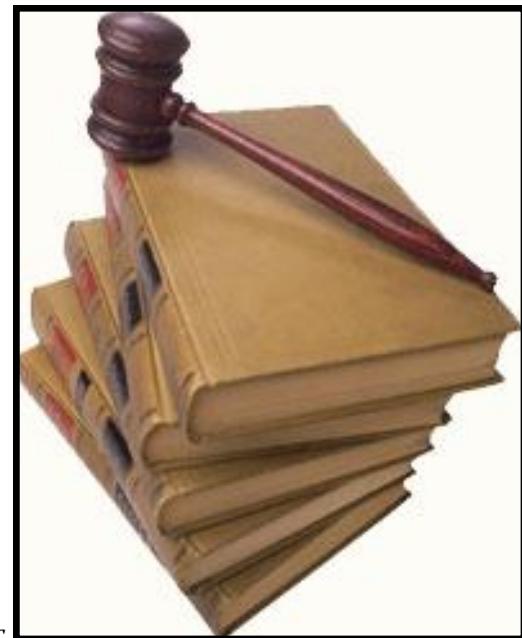
The proposed change will read:

Life members are active members who have rendered exceptional service to the MSRT. They shall be registered technologists selected by a unanimous vote of those Board of Directors members present at the summer board meeting. They shall pay no dues and shall have all the rights and privileges of an active member. Life membership will be awarded at the awards ceremony at that year's annual conference.

If passed, this bylaw change will take effect immediately.

Rationale: To be consistent with ASRT practice, and to be able to award life membership without having to wait another year.

Submitted by  
Asher Beam  
Chairman, Rules / Bylaws Committee



## Affiliate Delegates' Report to the Membership 2010 ASRT Conference

We arrived in Albuquerque on Thursday, June 24 and attended the welcome reception and state pin exchange. Both delegates attended all of the required meetings including the Education Courses for delegates, the first business meeting of the House of Delegates, the By-laws Open Forum, Practice Standards Open Forum, Commission Hearing, ASRT Open Forum, Education Chapter meeting and the second business meeting of the House of Delegates.

This was one of the most organized Governance meetings we have ever attended. There were some by-law changes this year but were very minor due to the complete revision of the Bylaws in 2009. The proposal by one member to remove all of the by-laws and representation by any chapters did not pass. The maker of the motion believed that chapters were a "subordinate" of the ASRT and/or a state affiliate and would have to abide by the new IRS filing for non-profits. However, according to CEO Sal Martino, a chapter does not fit the IRS description of a subordinate and so the chapters were left intact.

Motions were made to require that educators should have a certain number of their required continuing education credits in education related topics. The delegates voted to not have this motion brought to the floor as it was a late motion. However the education chapter would have liked for it to be discussed. We are sure it will come up again. Management and Education are the only chapters of ASRT which do not have a specific registry. Management does have the CRA exam but there is some question and some discussion going on regarding the organization which administers the exam. So we are sure that managers will be addressed in the future should the continuing education issue come to the forefront again for discussion.

ASRT members should refer to the ASRT website often as there are updates being posted regularly regarding practice standards issues and affiliate related topics.

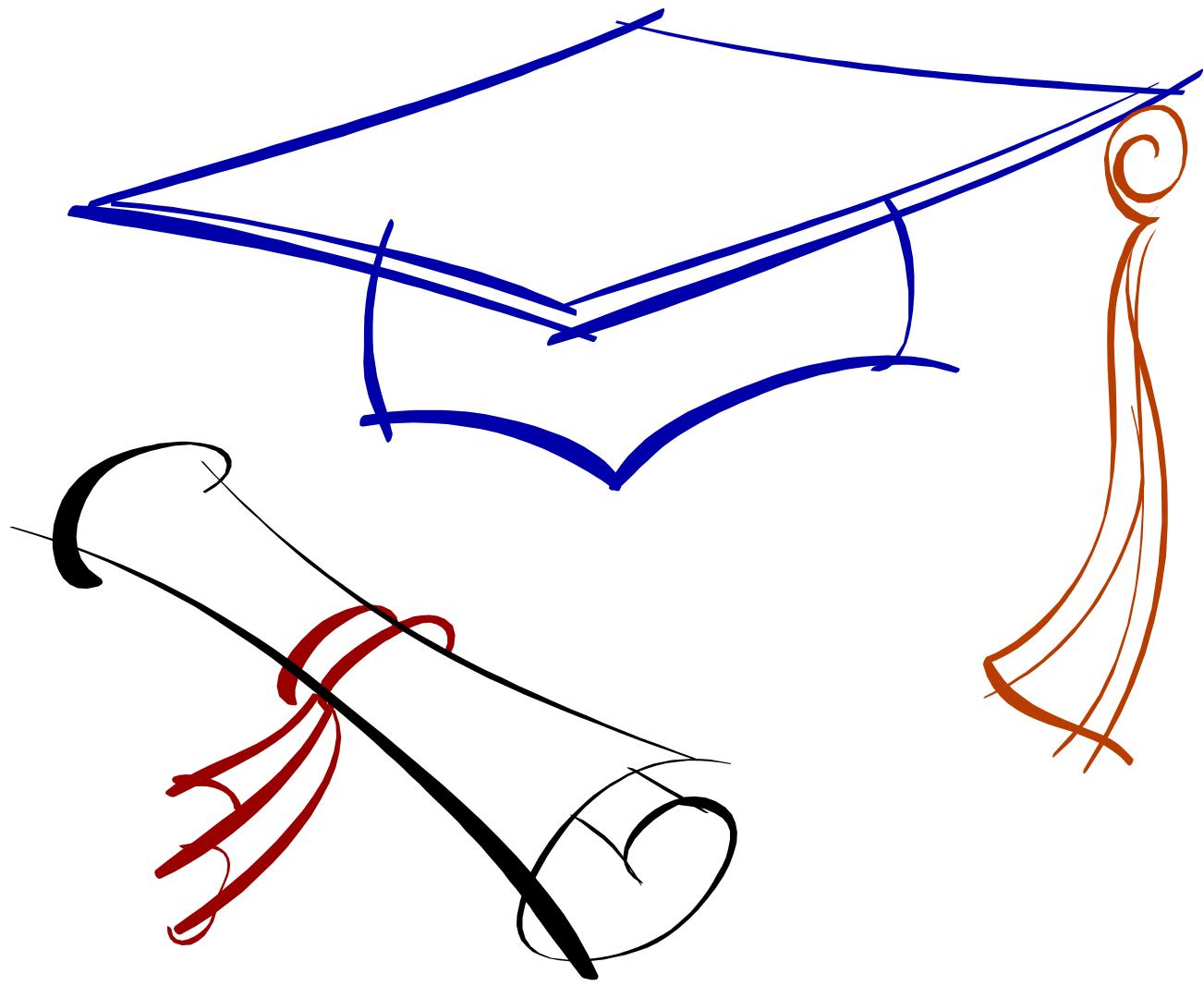
Donna Long and Sandra Hayden were both reelected to the offices of Speaker and Vice-Speaker respectively. Both have done a great job this past year and we are looking for great things again this year.

Neither of the MS affiliate delegates received any directions from any members as to opinions of where to place their votes. If any member has a question or comment about anything regarding the ASRT, the conference or anything on the website, please let either of us know and if we don't know it, we will contact the ASRT for information for you.

Thank you for letting us represent you and let us hear from you.

Mike Ketchum, M.S.Ed., RT (R)  
Paula Young, BS, RT (R)(M)





Congratulations  
Graduates  
class of 2010

# COPIAH LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**Front Row (L-R):** Mrs. Ramona Thomas, Didactic Instructor, Shannon Thompson, Callan Dalrymple, Melana Woods, Beth Wallace, Darlene Parker, Leah Smith, Casey Dickerson, Robyn Breakfield, Carry Anne Rake, Ana Stewart and Mrs. Billie Faye Sartin, Program Director.

**Back Row (L-R):** Christina Wilson, Jillian Lally, Leslie Waldrop, Robbie Nettles, Avery Ezell, James Barron, Alex Davis, Chris Givens, Richard Panzica, Jason Cloud, Kali Ford, Casey Royer and Ms. Julie Gaudin, Clinical Coordinator.

# HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**Standing (L-R): Haley Stribling, Colby Wallace, Heather Lewis, Kimberlee Eady, David Boydston, Brad O'Bier**

**Seated (L-R): Courtney Murphy, Talvea Seawood, Remeekie Hibbler, Allison Strong, Susan Weilenman, Kasey Walker, April Baughman, Danielle Massey, Brandi Chambers**

# ITTAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Standing (L-R): Brittney Vanlandingham, Ashley Palmer, Chris Burleson, "Scuba Steve", Brandi Johnson, Chris Hall, Misty McCurry, Jodi Ross, Kim Floyd, Sunshine McGregor, Cheley Payne, Kelly Harrison

Sitting (L-R): Eric Kendrick, Rachel Bynum, Amanda Pounds, Lisa Ellis, Lauren Holland, John Herring

# JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE



**Front (L-R): Stacey Parker, Chelsea Stringer, Michelle Harris**

**Middle (L-R): Amber Culpepper, Casey Bowen, Kayla Terrell**

**Back (L-R): Mandy Wilkerson, Tabitha Tice, Stephanie Ford, Kayla Blackledge**

# MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**Standing (L-R): James Cottles, Aimee Chesney, Tara Jones, Scott Wiggins**

**Sitting (L-R): Ashley Mercado, Lacey White**

# MISSISSIPPI DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**Front Row Sitting (L-R): Tony Domino, Courtney Henderson, Kaely Wilson, Charlsa Carr, Tina Garron, Tiffany Goss, Si Burnham**

**Second Row Sitting (L-R): Hallie Clark, Heather Duncan, Ginger Yarbrough, Carolyn Sutton**

**Standing (L-R): Jerome Conley, John Ray, Jenni Pretti, Shaunda Littlejohn, Lauren Young, Reath Williamson**

# NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**Front Row (L-R): Greta Sparks, Brittany Reaves, Katie Moore, Amanda Jarvis, Katelyn Comacho-Yau, Allison Nelson**

**Back Row (L-R): Will Rakestraw, Phillip Nanney, Jonathan Mayfield, Zach Glenn, Kelly Hill, Jodi Horton, Summer Box**

# PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**Front (L-R): Hope Husband - Clinical Coordinator; Sabrina Ard, Jay Robinson,  
David Armstrong - Program Director**

**Second Row (L-R): James Cowart, Jessica Brown, Travis Love**

**Third Row (L-R): Mackensay Palmer, Robyn Buehler, Jeremy Woodard**

**Fourth Row (L-R): Anna Rose Dunning, Deanna McIlwain, Brant Terrell**

**Fifth Row (L-R): Austin McMurry, Ashley Kingsafer, Kaleb Thurston, Kyle Moran**

# UNIVERSITY OF MS MEDICAL CENTER



**Front (Sitting L-R): Kelsey Henry, Dana Knight, Ruthie Gant, Allison Bennett, Stacee McCurdy**

**Second Row (L-R): Jessica Walters, Caroline Scott, Brittany Sullivan, Marty Ann Bergin, Megan Harrell, Kasi McClain, Rachel Porter**

**Third Row (L-R): Jeremy Dunaway, Dana Holeman, Allison Butler, Kim Harper, Domenick Addison**

**Fourth Row (L-R): Justin Hanks, Chris Hatt, Jody Fortenberry, Phil Hendricks**



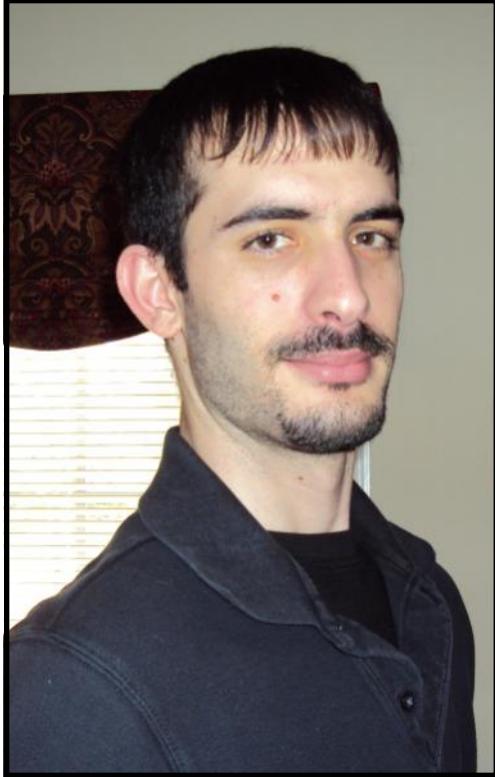
# MSRT

# Scholarship

# Recipients

Each of these students has demonstrated outstanding academic and clinical performance throughout their education. We salute them and wish them well in their future endeavors.

**Mike Ketchum**  
**Chairman of the Board — MSRT**



**Christopher Givens**  
Co-Lin Community College



**Kim Floyd**  
Ittawamba Community College



**Mandy Wilkerson**  
Jones County Junior College



**Carolyn Sutton**  
MS Delta Community College



**Robin Buehler**  
Pearl River Community College



**Kimberlee Eady**  
Hinds Community College



**Marty Ann Bergin**  
University of MS Medical Center

# MSRT 69th Annual Conference

## Natchez Convention Center

October 27-29, 2010

Natchez, MS



111 Broadway Street  
Natchez, MS 39120

601.446.9994

1.866.488.0898



**Room Rate: \$89.00 + tax**

**MSRT 69<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**October 27-29, 2010**  
**Natchez Convention Center**  
**Natchez, MS**

It is very important that you read the information in this form thoroughly! Incomplete forms or late postmarks will result in NO pre-registration advantages. REGISTRATION FORM: **Checks or money orders ONLY made payable to MSRT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

You must circle or check each day that you attend: \_\_\_\_\_ Wed \_\_\_\_\_ Thurs \_\_\_\_\_ Fri

**REGISTRATION FEES**

	<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>NON MEMBER</b>	<b>STUDENT MEMBER</b>	<b>STUDENT NON MEMBER</b>	<b>RETired MEMBER</b>
<b>1 Day</b>	\$110	\$160	\$55	\$70	\$55
<b>2 Day</b>	\$120	\$170	\$65	\$80	\$65
<b>3 Day</b>	\$130	\$180	\$75	\$90	\$75

Check Your Status: \_\_\_\_\_ RT \_\_\_\_\_ Student \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ MSRT member

STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE PROGRAM NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch will be provided with **pre-registration only!** A limited number of meal tickets will be available for on-site registration at an additional cost. **On-site registration will be an additional \$25.00 added to the above prices.**

**REFUNDS** will be made until **October 6, 2010** less a **\$50 tech or \$25 student** handling fee.  
**NO REFUNDS AFTER THAT DATE!!!**

**Registration forms postmarked after September 30, 2010 will be processed as ON-SITE and the additional fee will be collected at registration.**

**EVERYONE** will be required to check in at the credentials desk prior to proceeding to registration. To receive member benefits you **MUST** have a current MSRT card for **'10-'11**, join on-site, or provide proof of current membership in another state society.

**If paying dues and registration fees, please send two (2) separate checks.**

Complete this form and mail to: MSRT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Christina Thomas  
108 Begonia Lane  
Madison, MS 39110

# **MSRT 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

## **Agenda**

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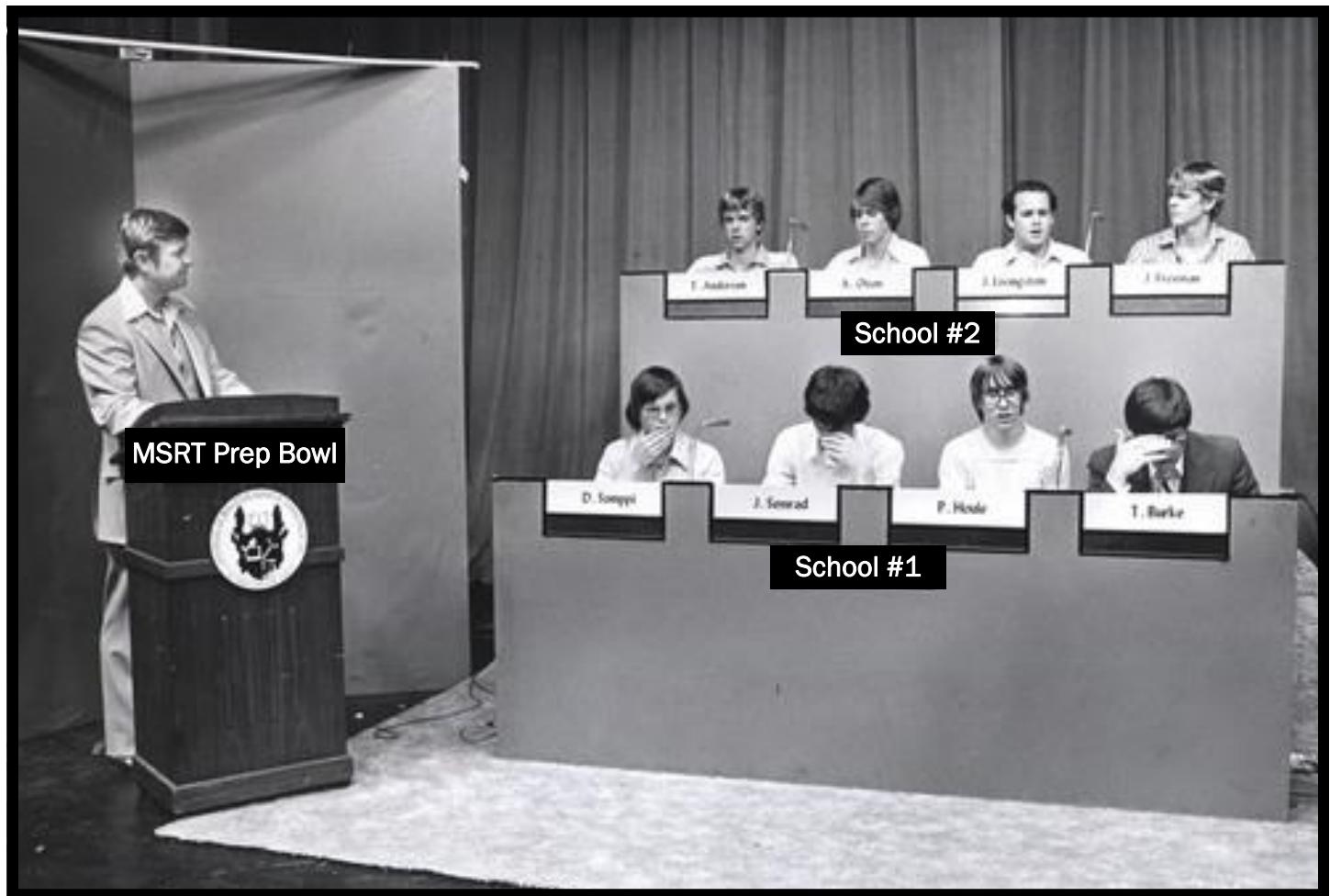


**Please revisit [www.msrt.biz](http://www.msrt.biz) in  
the next couple of weeks for the  
finalized conference agenda.**

# Student Prep Bowl

**Where: Natchez Convention Center**  
**When: Wednesday, October 27, 2010**  
**from 7:00 pm until...**

Please see the rules beginning on the next page



# **MSRT Central District Prep Bowl**

## **Rules and Regulations**

---

### **Purpose:**

To review and increase knowledge of radiologic technology among students who should be preparing themselves for the ARRT Registry. This will be an excellent form of registry review.

### **Eligibility:**

Participants in the MSRT Central District Prep Bowl must be enrolled in a JRCERT approved radiologic technology program. Each member of a team shall be in the final year of the program and all team members shall be from the same program. The students participating in the prep bowl must be a member of their state affiliate and registered for Conference in order to participate.

### **Team Roster:**

Each school will be represented by only one (1) team. Each team will be represented by no more than five (5) senior level students from the same approved program of Radiologic Technology. Only three (3) team members may serve on the panel at any one time. Students will be allowed to rotate members during scheduled breaks only.

### **Officials:**

Each official shall be a registered radiologic technologist or a radiologist. No faculty member or clinical instructor of a participating school shall serve as an official.

- ◆ **The Moderator:** Shall serve as competition coordinator. It shall be the duty of the moderator to present all questions, repeat each answer, and to call official breaks or time-out. The moderator must read the question only and may not elaborate in any way which might aid in the answering of the question.
- ◆ **The Panel of Judges:** Shall be available to verify all challenged questions using text references. The decision of the judges is final. If the question cannot be verified, the question will be thrown out and a new question asked.
- ◆ **The Timekeeper:** Shall keep the official response time during competition.
- ◆ **The Scorekeeper and Backup Scorekeeper:** Shall maintain a comprehensive score record of the schools in competition. The scorekeeper will keep score on a board visible to the audience, while the backup scorekeeper will keep score independently.

## **Competition:**

Calculators, pencils, and scratch paper will be provided. Team members may only use the items provided. All schools will compete at the same time. Competition will consist of five (5) rounds of categorical questions weighted in proportion to the current ARRT Registry content for each category.

The rounds will proceed as follows:

<b><u>Round</u></b>	<b><u>Category</u></b>	<b><u>No. of Questions</u></b>	
1	Radiation Protection	6	20%
2	Equipment Operation and Maintenance	4	12%
3	Image Production and Evaluation	8	25%
4	Radiographic Procedures & Anatomy	8	30%
5	Patient Care and Education	4	13%
		Total	30      100%

## **Time:**

Each team will be allowed ten (10) seconds to answer each question. If the answer has not begun in ten (10) seconds or if the wrong answer is given, that question will be discarded.

## **Questions:**

For the collection of questions, the Central District of the MSRT will seek participation from educators of the JRCERT approved radiologic technology programs in Mississippi. The Central District will verify accuracy of questions collected and will not reveal the questions to anyone outside the Prep Bowl committee. Questions will be multiple choice only. During competition, only one repeat per question will be allowed.

## **Points:**

Each question will be worth one (1) point for a possible total of 30 points. In the event of a tie, the competition will go into a tie-breaker which will consist of ten (10) questions each worth one (1) point. If teams remain tied, a final question will be randomly selected and asked to each team until a winner is decided.

### **Breaks:**

A five (5) minute break will be placed between each round for team member rotation only. After Round Three (3), there will be a fifteen (15) minute recess for the audience and teams.

### **Challenge:**

A question may only be challenged by a member of the three person team participating at that time. The question must be challenged prior to the reading of the next question. **THE JUDGE'S RULING IS FINAL.**

### **Penalties:**

Any coaching or yelling of answers from the audience will disqualify the question from competition and a new question will be asked. Continued disruption will result in removal from the competition area.

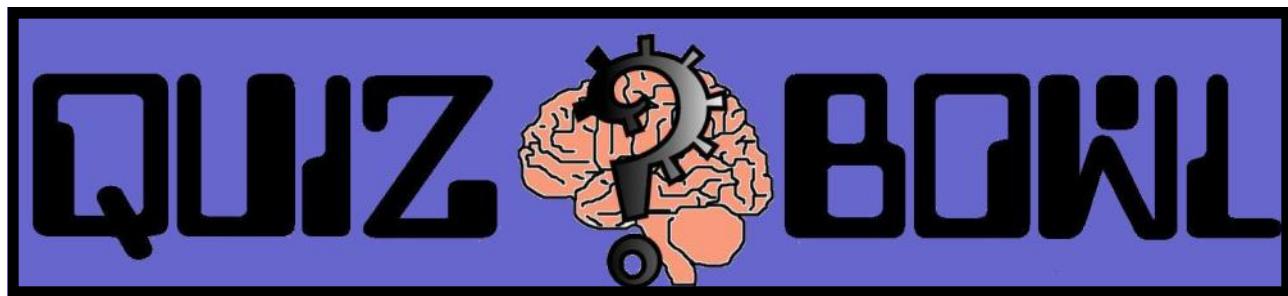
### **Awards:**

Plaques will be awarded to First, Second, and Third place teams. The First place team will also receive a \$100 cash award from the Central District of the MSRT.

### **Additional Rules:**

The Natchez Convention Center prohibits alcohol beverages on the premises. Therefore, alcoholic beverages are not allowed and persons with alcohol/alcoholic beverages in their possession shall be considered disruptive and removed from the competition area.

All electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, pagers, Bluetooth, etc.) must have the power turned off and stowed away during competition.





# Halloween Costume Party



Where: Natchez City Auditorium

When: Thursday, October 28, 2010  
from 8 pm until midnight

## **Student Manuscript: 3rd Place Recipient—Caroline Scott (UMMC)**

### **Shaken Baby Syndrome**

A mother is caring for her young inconsolable child, but despite her attempts at calming the infant, nothing seems to work. Frustrated and at her wit's end, the mother violently shakes the child in a desperate attempt to stop the child's crying; little does she know that it will most definitely be her final attempt. The infant does stop crying, in fact, she ceases all respiratory function. To state it bluntly—the baby dies. What happened? The mother's action was not premeditated, nor was it intended to be malicious; regardless, the baby has become a victim of shaken baby syndrome.

Shaken baby syndrome, or SBS, has also been called shaken impact syndrome, battered child syndrome, and abusive head trauma; the non-specific term “whiplash” has also been used. As its name implies, SBS is a severe form of head trauma caused by violently shaking an infant or child. Not every case of shaken baby syndrome ends in a fatality, but as The National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome states, “the consequences of less severe cases may not be brought to the attention of medical professionals and may never be diagnosed”. However in severe cases of SBS, the child suffers from life-threatening central nervous system damage and malfunction that could ultimately lead to his or her death unless medical support is sought immediately.

Less severe cases of SBS may never be diagnosed for the simple fact that the symptoms, separately, could be mistaken for numerous illnesses; combined, however, the symptoms are quite indicative of the syndrome. According to The National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome, common symptoms of SBS include, but are not limited to:

Lethargy; decreased muscle tone; extreme irritability; decreased appetite; poor feeding, or vomiting for no apparent reason; grab-type bruises on arms or chest are rare; no smiling or vocalization; poor sucking or swallowing; rigidity or posturing; difficulty breathing; seizures; head or forehead appears larger than usual or soft spot on the head appears to be bulging (fontanelle); inability to lift head; inability of eyes to focus or track movement or unequal size of pupils.

The National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome explains that babies are at high risk of neurological damage from shaking because their heads are relatively large and heavy in comparison to the rest of their bodies. Children are typically held by the arms or trunk and shaken in a back and forth motion with repeated force. This action does not have to go on long for irreparable damage to occur—it can take as little as five seconds. Shaking causes the brain to move around in the skull which, in turn, results in significant damage to brain tissue, if not completely destroying it. Blood vessels tear, and blood pooling around the brain often creates more pressure and additional brain damage. It is not uncommon for retinal bleeding to occur. If the swelling and pressure are not controlled by getting emergency medical care, the child can die.

The person most notably credited for his research or “discovery” of SBS is Dr. John Caffey. In the 1920s, Caffey was the chief resident physician at the University of Michigan and an intern in pediatrics at Babies Hospital in New York City. During the 1930s, he was revered among radiologists and trainees alike for his work and findings in pediatric radiology even though he had no formal training. In an article written by N. Thorne Griscom, MD, it states that Dr. Caffey contributed greatly to the medical field in the understanding of battered child syndrome. Griscom also noted that

[Caffey] considered radiology the 5<sup>th</sup> element of physical examination after inspection, palpation, percussion, and auscultation: ‘Radiology is merely internal inspection.’

Radiographic equipment during the 1930s and 1940s was just beginning to achieve the short exposure time necessary to radiograph children. Although pediatric radiography remained primitive and in its infancy during Caffey’s studies and experimentations, he was able to delineate—through rigorous testing, no doubt—between “predisposing skeletal conditions” and those conditions caused by outside forces, or more specifically, abuse. An example of a predisposing skeletal condition would be osteogenesis imperfecta. This condition is more commonly called brittle bone disease. Rib fractures, extremity fractures, and overall bone fragility could all be caused by osteogenesis imperfecta and not necessarily indicative of any type of abuse, including SBS. Advancements in technology, research, and medicine have allowed physicians and radiologists to build upon Caffey’s findings.

These days CT, MRI, and conventional x-rays can be used altogether to accurately diagnose a child who may be suffering from SBS. However, several sources state that these modalities separately should not be used to make a conclusion about such an illness. If SBS is suspected, a skeletal survey is usually performed first. All the child's bones, including the skull, are x-rayed to look for unseen fractures or old, healing fractures. If there is a skull fracture; bleeding in the eye; unexplained vomiting; severe bruising of the face, skull or abdomen; or unexplained neurological symptoms, headaches, or loss of consciousness, then MRI and/or CT scans are performed first to detect the possible presence of subdural hematomas. In addition to radiographic examinations, eye exams are performed to detect any bleeding within the eye, also called retinal hemorrhages.

According to The American Academy of Pediatrics, in a review of 1,416 cases of SBS, 95% were preceded by crying. It is stated that colic is the most extreme form of crying, and this may place some infants at greater risk since there is no apparent reason for the child's unrest. All the infant's basic needs have been met, and yet, the child still cries. Other triggers for SBS revolve around toilet training, feeding problems, temper tantrums, and so on. If anyone has ever cared for children, it is easy to understand how mentally, as well as emotionally exhausting and upsetting it can be when he or she is unable to comfort a crying child.

Therefore, to prevent fatalities and/or physical and mental impairments caused by shaken baby syndrome, the public must be educated. A caregiver, whether it is a mother, father, babysitter, grandparent, etc must realize that unrealistic expectations of an infant or toddler can lead to disastrous outcomes. Never shake a baby.

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Griscom MD, N. Thorne. *Dr. John Caffey and His Contributions to Radiology*. Feb. 1995.

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**Student Paper: Simira Nazir (Jim Wood Award Candidate)**

## **X-ray Astronomy**

On June 21, 2010, a collection of cosmic x-rays smashed into a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) telescope in space, temporarily shutting the machine down. The collision was a gamma ray burst, which is characterized as narrow beams of radiation, usually from stars bursting into the supernova stage. In these bursts, x-rays as well as visible light can be produced. The Swift observatory orbits the Earth at 600 kilometers, where the blast was so intense it overwhelmed the x-ray detector and confused the software that analyzed the telescope's data. The Earth's atmosphere is designed to absorb the cosmic rays, so no harm is done to the planet from these bursts. Scientists read the last bit of data recorded by Swift, and the records showed the peak of the blast had 143,000 x-ray photons per second hitting the detector. After the first few seconds, the burst dimmed but continued to illuminate for ten minutes. The photons were traced to a galaxy 5 billion light years away. Dubbed GRB 100621A, the burst has made history as the brightest gamma ray burst ever recorded. However, no one knows what could have caused it. The scientists are at a loss. Matter tends to shoot out from a star when collapsing into a black hole, but it would only produce 10 to 100 photons per second (Moskowitz, 2010; Shiga, 2010). Why would this particular burst release so many more x-rays? What is going on in the universe? This is why x-ray astronomy was born.

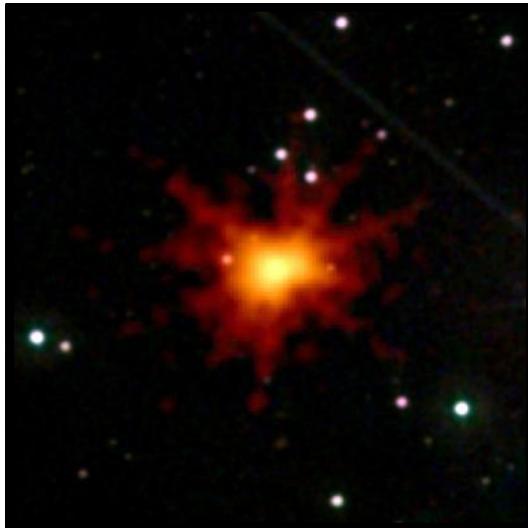
I came across x-ray astronomy while researching topics for a paper. I found the idea very intriguing and wanted to look into the subject further. X-ray astronomy is the study of cosmic rays through the use of telescopes and detectors. From measuring the photons, it is possible to find out what matter is made of, how far away it is, and possibly the evolution of the object (NASA "Chandra," 2010). X-ray astronomy needs satellites, so study in this area did not take off until the 1960's. First, rockets were shot into space with detectors. The photons from the sun were the main source of x-rays that were measured. Then, in 1962, a rocket was launched by American Science and Engineering in New Mexico and it detected the first x-rays with a cosmic source. A bright area was found in the Scorpius constellation, which was named Scorpius X-1 (NASA "X-ray," 2010). After this discovery, scientists believed x-rays could be used to research the mysteries of space.

There are many subtopics to this science, but I will concentrate on the satellites in space, which are finding some very interesting things.

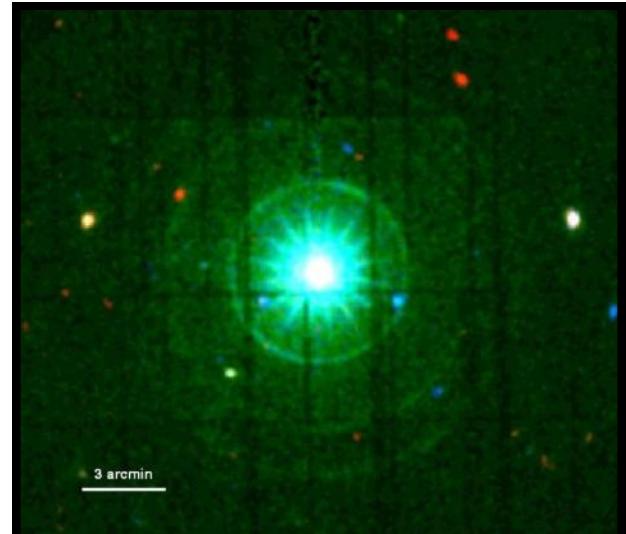
One of the x-ray telescopes in space right now is the XMM-Newton, named for Sir Isaac Newton. The XMM stands for x-ray multi-mirror mission. It was launched on December 10, 1999 from Kourou, Guiana and was one of the big missions for the European Space Agency. This satellite is the biggest ever built in Europe. The satellite has three mirror sections, each with an x-ray detector and camera. The mirrors are very sensitive. While the x-ray camera is working, the UV-optical telescope is taking images as well. One of XMM-Newton's biggest achievements is deciphering neutron stars. Neutron stars are the leftover pieces of a star after the explosion during the supernova phase. They are very dense. A sugar cube-sized piece could weigh millions of tons. Scientists want to know what makes up these stars because it could help them figure out how objects in space are created. From the XMM-Newton's observations, the mass and radius of the star can be found. From this, the density can also be determined as well as the type of matter in the star. The neutron star is the closest object that could prove the Big Bang Theory. The matter inside could be the spark that starts universes (ESA, 2003).

The biggest contributor to x-ray astronomy is NASA's Chandra Observatory. Chandra was launched by the space shuttle Columbia on July 23, 1999, and it circles the Earth in an elliptical orbit at 139,000 km in space (NASA "Chandra," 2010). It is capable of taking uninterrupted observations for two days straight. The telescope has four mirrors inside that focus together onto electronic detectors. It examines the hot clouds of gas around galaxies. Depending on which detector is used, an image or a spectrum of the cosmic object is created and then analyzed. The pictures allow scientists a look into the makeup of an object in space. Scientists can use the measurements of x-rays and microwaves to estimate the age of a universe. The x-ray measurements will also determine if the universe will expand forever or ultimately collapse. Already, the Chandra has given the world amazing images of exploded stars, the black hole in the center of the Milky Way and in other universes, and traced dark matter and normal matter for studies (HSCA, 2010).

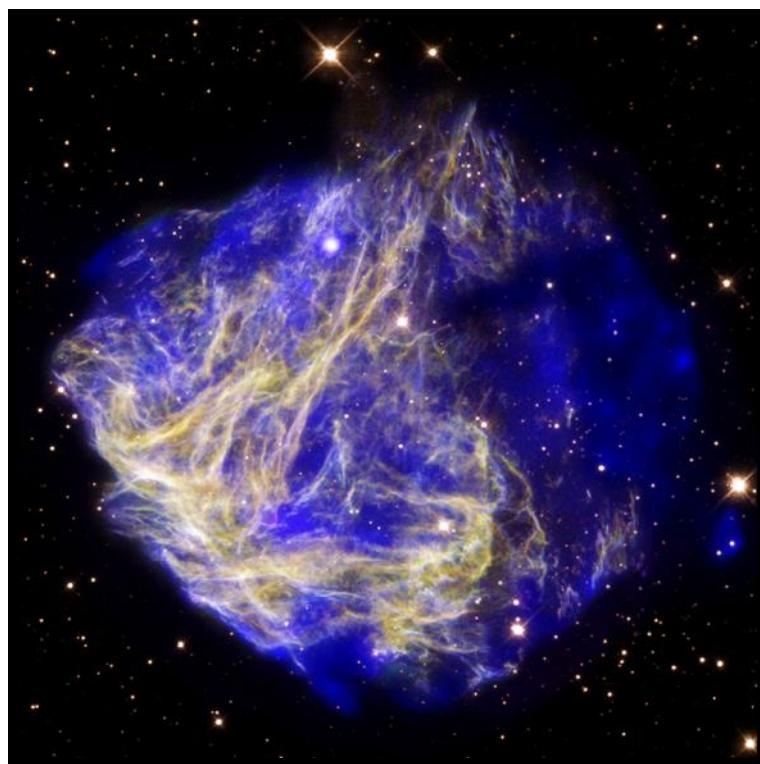
X-ray astronomy is a cutting edge way to explore the universe. From understanding the mysteries of black holes to neutron stars, x-ray telescopes are helping astronomers understand beyond what the eye can see. Studies on matter have prospered because of the use of x-ray telescopes. With all the discoveries already made, the potential is limitless.



**Swift**



**Newton Neutron Star**



**Chandra N49**

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# Nominations

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It is time for nominations for the elected offices of the MSRT.

If you have someone you would like to nominate, please place your nominees' name in the appropriate space and mail to:

Penny Spivey  
10800 Jim Ramsey Road  
Vancleave, MS 39656

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliate Delegate: \_\_\_\_\_



## MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS CHANGE OF INFORMATION OR ADDRESS FORM



MSRT MEMBER #\_\_\_\_\_

Name:\_\_\_\_\_

### OLD INFORMATION:

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_

### NEW INFORMATION:

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\* This form can either me mailed or return via email to the following \*\*\*\*

Christina Thomas

108 Begonia Lane

Madison, MS 39110

KRZYCMT@AOL.COM



## MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



CURRENT MEMBERSHIP (2010-2011) EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2011. IF YOU HAVE NOT SUBMITTED PAYMENT WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DUE DATE, YOUR NAME WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER.

Please make checks or money order **payable to MSRT** and mail to:

Christina Thomas  
108 Begonia Lane  
Madison, MS 39110

Annual Fees: Student - \$7.00, RT - \$25.00, Associate - \$25.00

Complete the following form and return with payment.

MSRT MEMBER #\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please initial in the following space if it is ok, if we use your email to contact you) \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: Student \_\_\_\_\_ Associate \_\_\_\_\_ ARRT certified \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* If applying as a student, please give the name of the Radiologic Technology program you are enrolled in:\*\*\*

School: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRT certified technologists: please provide the following information:

**ARRT #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Modality (Please Circle)**

Radiography	Education	Sonography	CT	MRI	Bone densitometry
CIT	Mammography	Dosimetry	Radiation therapy		Nuclear medicine
Quality management		Military	Management	RA	RPA

## Letter from the Editor:

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer! I am looking forward to October...I am so excited about Conference! I want to encourage students to participate in the Prep Bowl. This is a great way to prepare for the Registry. I also want to encourage students to participate in the exhibit competition. Exhibit forms can be found on the website. Forms must be submitted to both the MSRT President and Conference Coordinator no later than September 28 if you choose to compete. I hope you enjoyed this edition of The BEAM! The deadline for the next issue of The BEAM is tentatively set for November 10, 2010.

~Kristi Moore

*Until we meet again...  
Conference 2010 (Natchez, MS)*



Please be sure to check out the MSRT website in December for the next issue of The BEAM!!!

Kristi