



Winter 2020

Editors:

Claire Parda

Karen Bisesi

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

DANIELLE COOK, CST

Happy New Year to all! I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday and rang in the new decade surrounded by loved ones. The beginning of a new year is a time for reflection and set personal goals. I have decided this year to focus on the things that are truly important to me and to let go of things I cannot control. This pertains not only to my personal life but my professional life as well. As healthcare professionals, we need to prioritize tasks based on the case that we are doing and, just when we think everything is going smoothly, something changes. Whether it be an add-on, delay, change in rooms, or patient emergency, we need to respond in a calm, positive manner. These are situations that are out of our control and getting worked up not only affects your professional performance, but also you mental and physical health. The next time you feel yourself getting worked up, take a deep breath and think of the reason you are a Surgical Technologist, the patient. You are making a positive impact on the quality of life of another person and that is amazing, as are you!

As your new President, I would like to provide you with my background. I earned my AAS in Surgical Technology in 2002 from MATC (Milwaukee) and moved to Oshkosh, which is close to my hometown. I worked at Theda Clark Medical Center in Neenah, a Level II Trauma Center. While I loved the excitement it brought, I was given an opportunity to teach and knew it was best for my family. I have been at Moraine Park Technical College since 2005 and love making an impact on people in a different way. From seeing a student have that "aha" moment and finally understanding suture, to watching them walk across that stage and receive their degree; it is a great feeling. While I do miss the excitement of being "right there" in the OR, I know that I am making a difference. I still live in Oshkosh with my husband and 17-year-old son. Mark your calendars for our upcoming WIAST meetings. "Bloom with Knowledge" will be held on March 14, 2020 at Aurora BayCare Orthopedics & Sports Medicine Center in Green Bay. Registration is open on our website, www.wiast.org. Our Fall meeting will be held October 24, 2020 in Madison; more details to come. I look forward to seeing everyone in March!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- **BOARD MEMBER BLURBS**
- **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: MEET YOUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!**
- **ROBOTIC MILESTONE**
- **SPRING MEETING**
- **LUCY STAR**
- **RE-CERTIFICATION CYCLE CHANGE**
- **VETERAN/MILITARY SCHOLARSHIP**
- **ARE YOU F.A.S.T.???**



WI AST



wisconsin.ast

Board Member Blurbs



JOY IN SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

NICOLE VAN VONDEREN, CST
WI-AST VICE PRESIDENT

I have such a joy and compassion for Surgical Technology. I love being involved with our profession. I've served on our state level going on my 5th year and I am currently serving on our National AST Bylaws, Parliamentary and Procedures committee. This makes me so happy to be able to help others in our profession and to spread my joy of Surgical Technology with others.

DO IT IN 2020

SUE MCNEELY, CST, FAST
WI-AST SECRETARY

In today's fast-moving world, it takes a bit of doing to get involved. Surgical technology has evolved and is a profession that we are all proud to be a part of. WIAST is continuously brainstorming for ways to get recognized for the important role we do each day for the patients who depend on us. Thus each of us needs to go the extra mile and volunteer to speak for the profession often and become the face recognized in 2020.



A LITTLE PERSPECTIVE, PLEASE!

CLAIRE PARDA, CST, BSHCA
WI-AST BOARD DIRECTOR

Is it 2020 already??!! As the new year starts, I am reminded of how much I love the OR, our culture, and what we do for our patients. I recently had an injury outside of work, which put me on light duty for an extended amount of time. I have had the opportunity to collaborate with different departments on different projects, although it has slowed me down from my daily hustle and bustle. These last few weeks have made me realize many things...but most importantly I miss scrubbing! The OR is unique in its own way, and we are fortunate to be in the inner circle that defines our profession. I have been exposed to so many wonderful peers and collaborators that have the same vision as I do within our hospital organization. With this, it has made me realize my New Years 'intention'. This year I am going to take opportunities I might not have otherwise considered. One of them has been to be an active part of our WI-AST board and start strong in 2020. I have also decided, with my partner in crime Karen Bisesi, to help bring YOU the news and on goings around Wisconsin through this publication. If you have an article, update, idea, or feedback please email us at wiaastnews@gmail.com. Happy 2020!!!

Board Member Blurbs

#wisconsinAST

THE GRAM!!!

Instagram! Do you know that we are on it?

Our username is Wisconsin.ast. Look us up and send us

pictures. Find out what we are doing. Learn

who the board members are. Share

with us!

BE PRESENT IN 2020

BRIDGET HANSON, CST, CSFA
WI-AST BOARD DIRECTOR

Hello fellow WI-AST members!! Let me be the first to say Happy New Year and welcome you to 2020!! Wow...2020!! A brand-new decade full of energy, promise and untapped potential. When most people think of New Years, most think of resolutions, right?! More exercise...less sitting on the couch scrolling social media; more broccoli...less pizza; more saving...less spending, you get the idea. Resolutions are everywhere this time of year and chances are you made one too. I know I did. But mine might not be what you think. My resolution this year is to 'Be Present'. Being present to me is just taking the time to slow down and really notice and appreciate everything. I mean who doesn't need to just slow down and take a deep breath once and a while?! As a busy mama of two very active sports-loving girls, we literally have some sort of practice, game, or tournament every single night of the week; weekends are no exception. Sometimes both of my girls have practice at the same time in two different towns! (Haha...that's my favorite night!) So, for us, slowing down is literally the key to sanity. We eat supper in the car more times than I'd like to admit, and my girls do their homework by the backseat dome light in my SUV as we commute from gym to gym. It sounds crazy I know, and I'm sure some of you are wondering why we do this, or why we put ourselves through this. Well, to me...this is just the life we were given and the sooner I learned to embrace the chaos and be present and appreciative in it all, only then did we find some peace. And let me tell you, it has been amazing thus far! But please don't let me fool you that a couple deep breaths now and then did all of this. There is A TON of organization, planning, meal prepping and whole lot of patience and grace that went into this. But I think for me what has made the most impact, was the conscious choice of intention...to just be present and appreciative throughout it all! Let me say that again...the conscious choice to be present!! Seriously, just being aware and in control of the choices we make is such a powerful thing. Go ahead...try it out on your own resolution, whatever that resolution might be, and I hope you too can make the conscious choice to do it with intention. But hey, let's not stop here friends...I hope that you ALL make a resolution right now to attend the next WI-AST meeting being held Saturday March 14th, 2020 at Aurora BayCare in Green Bay! Hope to see you all then, unless your kid has a game, practice, or a tournament...then no worries-we get it!!



Happy Birthday

Wisconsin is celebrating 20 years as a State Assembly this April. Thank you to everyone for continued collaboration and for making Wisconsin CST strong!!!

Board Member Blurbs



SPRING IN GREEN BAY

ILEA NERI CORNELIUS, CST
WI-AST BOARD DIRECTOR

I am so excited to be hosting our Spring meeting at Aurora BayCare in Green Bay! The meeting will be held on Saturday March 14. We have many great speakers lined up but I'm most excited about the Heart Lab. We are going to be walking through the flow of blood through the heart using Pig Hearts. I hope you can join us for this great educational experience.

YAY INSTAGRAM!!!



KAREN BISESI, CST, CSFA
WI-AST BOARD DIRECTOR

The internet. We all use it, we all are connected to it. How can we make it ours? I am here trying to improve on our social media. How you say???

Step 1: WE HAVE INSTAGRAM! Connect to us on wisconsin.ast. I am currently working on getting it going. There are many avenues we can take...do you have an idea??? There are many different ways we can go. I am looking for anyone with ideas. What about a weekly question? Shareable Set-ups??? Member spotlight?? What's your favorite procedure??? How does YOUR facility function? There is so much our members can share and collaborate, I find value for this to help our new techs. Please send any ideas/information to Karen at karenbisesi@gmail.com. PLUS, it's our year! Our state assembly was formed April 2000. Happy 20th Anniversary in the year 2020!!!!

GET YOUR BUDGET OVER HERE!



SHANNA LIEBL, CST
WI-AST TREASURER

Hi fellow Wisconsin AST members! Hope you all had a wonderful holiday! For most the end of the year tends to be busy both in our personal lives and in the OR. Between being busy with my personal life, work was extremely busy as well. I made sure to take some extra days off this year to spend with my family.

My family also started a new tradition, and one that did more for me than I ever expected. This year we decided to sponsor a family. It was the greatest gift giving to another family. My 6 year old daughter enjoyed picking out toys to gift to another child. Giving really is better than receiving!

In January I'll be working on our 2020 budget and our 2019 year end financials. I'll see you in Green Bay at our Spring meeting!

Happy New Year From BOD



2020 WI Board of Directors

(standing) Claire Parda, Bridget Hanson, Ilea Neri Cornelius, Kimberly Schauer, Karen Bisesi, Shanna Liebl.
 (sitting): Danielle Cook, Nicole Van Vonderen, and Susan McNeely.

Member Spotlight



MEET YOUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!!!

CLAIRE PARDA, CST, BSHCA
WI-AST BOARD DIRECTOR (OCT '19-OCT '21)
NASHOTAH, WI

Hello Wisconsin!!! My name is Claire and I am one of the new Board Directors for your WI-AST! I hail from Nashotah, WI (although I am an AVID Chicago Bears fan) where I live with my significant other and our daughter. I currently work at ProHealth in Waukesha, WI. I love my career and will be a tech coming up on 2 years this May. My favorite specialty is Ortho/Neuro, and favorite cases are spine fusions. All in all though, I love the variety of cases and specialties we see here at WMH. Although new to surgical technology, I have worked in healthcare on and off through the years, receiving my Bachelors of Science in Health Administration in 2008. In my free time I enjoy hiking, camping, backpacking, hunting, archery, ice hockey, and leading the next generation of female leaders through Girl Scouts. I am a life-long learner, and have enjoyed attending the AST National Conference the last 2 years. I am excited to be a part of the WI-AST Board because I feel we should continue giving back to the surgical technology community and embrace the next generation of CST's. Feel free to say 'hi' and ask me any questions about conference. Have an article or information you would like to share in our newsletter? Feel free to pass it along for Karen and me! Looking forward to seeing you in Green Bay (as long as I don't need to touch anything Green and Gold!!!).

Member Spotlight



KAREN BISESI, CST, CSFA
WI-AST BOARD DIRECTOR (OCT '19-OCT '21)
HALES CORNERS, WI

Hello, I'm Karen Bisesi. I live in Hales Corners and work at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. I graduated from Waukesha County Technical College in 2005. Get this...I turned 21 years old, attended the pinning ceremony and graduated all in one week that year. Crazy. I never would have dreamed to be in the operating room. I did not like blood and guts growing up, so I bet it was a shock to my parents when I decided to become a tech. The day I went to shadow, to see if I could even handle it, I was a nervous wreck. I ate Culver's in my car. I was told to have a fully belly, I listened! It gave me the energy to fall in love with the profession. I do not remember the procedure, but I do remember standing on a step stool trying to look over the equipment. Thinking "Get your hand out of the way, I can't see!!!" It was obviously awesome. Here I am 15 years later! A certified surgical first assistant and still in love with it all. To keep up with the stamina of the OR, I run and lift weights. I actually met my husband at the gym. At least once a year, we get a group of us OR people together and pick a race. We run all different mileage and we welcome everyone, we don't care about speed, just friendships. I truly have a family in my OR and I hope you do to.

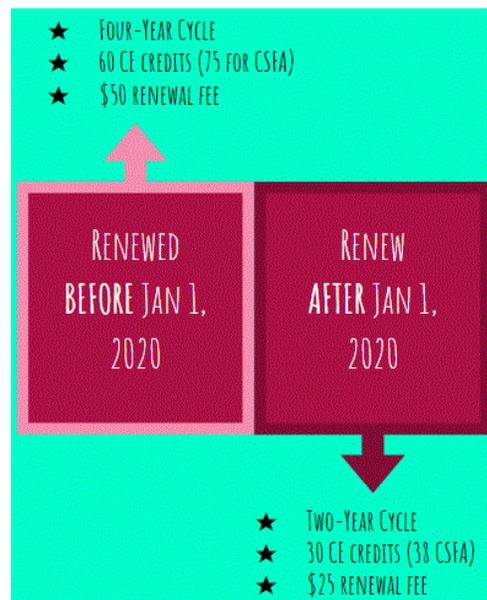
Updated Certification Info



CLAIRE PARDA, CST, BSHCA
WI-AST BOARD DIRECTOR

Just a reminder our certification cycle will be changing this year!!! When you renew this year and moving forward, it will change to 2-years, will be half the cost, and half the credit requirements! Just think...

- ⇒ 2 WI-AST meetings/ year = 12 CE's
- ⇒ 3 free AST credits/year= 6 CE's
- ⇒ Over 2 years that's 30 CE's!!!
- ⇒ That doesn't even count Conference!



Star of Lucy Recipients



Congratulations to our Fall 2019 Lucy Star Scholarship winners!

Carly Erdman (left)

Kim Livingood (right)

Thank you to everyone who participated this year!

What is FAST?



CLAIRE PARDA, CST, BSHCA
RETRIEVED FROM WWW.AST.ORG

The Fellow of the Association of Surgical Technologists (FAST) designation recognizes those individuals who have upheld the highest standards and traditions of the surgical technology profession, and whose professional activities have been devoted to the advancement of the profession toward improving the quality of surgical patient care. A candidate designated as a Fellow is recognized as one whose dedication to professional excellence has furthered the practice of surgical technology. AST Fellows are surgical technologists and surgical assistants...

- ⇒ Whose professional activities have been devoted to the practice of surgical technology and
- ⇒ Who abide by the AST Code of Ethics and the AST Recommended Standards of Practice

Candidates chosen as a Fellow will commit and adhere to these ethics and standards of practice when declaring the Oath of an AST Fellow.

If you would like more information or to apply, please see the link below.

<https://www.ast.org/webdocuments/FASTSelectionPolicies/4/>

<https://www.ast.org/forms/fast/>

The deadline date for submission of completed applications is May 15 annually.

News Around Wisconsin



ROBOTIC SURGERY PROGRAM REACHES IMPRESSIVE MILESTONE

PROHEALTH WAUKESHA MEMORIAL-DEC 27, 2019

SUBMITTED BY: CLAIRE PARDA, CST, BSHCA

In 2005, ProHealth launched its robotic surgery program at ProHealth Waukesha Memorial Hospital. During the first year, 29 urology cases were performed. Over the years, adoption of the highly precise, minimally invasive surgical approach has grown, and earlier this month the team reached a milestone — its 5,000th robotic case.

Here's a look at the numbers by specialty:

- ⇒ 31% Gynecology
- ⇒ 30% General surgery
- ⇒ 29% Urology
- ⇒ 6% Thoracic
- ⇒ 3% Head and neck
- ⇒ 1% Cardiac

Two surgeons have performed more than 500 robotic cases. Brian Butler, MD, urologist, has logged 693 cases, and Janet Turner, MD, a gynecologic oncologist with ProHealth Medical Group, has treated 526 patients using the minimally invasive surgical approach.

In 2015, ProHealth was the second health care system in southeastern Wisconsin to offer the latest generation of robotic surgery technology – the da Vinci Xi. Today, there are two units available for use.

The robot allows surgeons to operate through small incisions. A control panel translates the surgeon's hand movements into precise movements of tiny instruments that are attached to the robot's arms. Robotic surgery patients benefit from:

- ⇒ Less blood loss, scarring and pain.
- ⇒ A reduced risk of infection.
- ⇒ A shorter hospital stay.
- ⇒ A faster return to normal activities

Education Updates



BLOOM IN KNOWLEDGE

**Aurora Bay Care — Bloom in knowledge
Event: Annual Meeting**

Location:

Aurora Bay Care
Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Center
1160 Kepler Drive Green Bay WI 54311

[https://
events.r20.constantcontact.com/
register/eventReg?
oeidk=a07egrhnl7s2b2429b5&
seq=&c=&ch=](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07egrhnl7s2b2429b5&seq=&c=&ch=)

If you have food allergies or questions contact:
Stephanie Champeau 920-288-4582
champeau2@aurora.com



Registration 7-7:45am
Meeting 7:45am – 2:55pm

****Sorry no refunds will be given****

Hotels:

Americinn
2628 Manitowoc Rd
Green Bay, WI 54311
920-241-6180

Super 8
2911 Voyager Dr.
Green Bay, WI
920-406-8200

Blocks reserved under: WIAST



51st AST SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE MAY 28-30, 2020 | ATLANTA

Join AST in Atlanta in 2020 and experience some of that famous southern hospitality while you hear from surgeons and researchers who are shaping the future of surgery.

Learn about the latest products, services and equipment for the operating room or talk to the nation’s top surgical technology recruiters. Compare stories and strategies with certified surgical technologists from around the country, while enjoying all that is Atlanta. Learn more about Atlanta and find discounts on local attractions (Atlanta CityPASS) at www.atlanta.net.

Registration opens Feb. 1, 2020. Registration guides will be mailed with January issue of The Surgical Technologist journal and be available on AST's website in early January.

Early Bird Rate - AST Members (online by March 15) \$275

	Advance-April 15	Onsite-after April 15
AST Member	\$350	\$390
Nonmember	\$480	\$520
AST Retired/Disabled Member	\$175	\$175
AST Student Member*	\$99	\$139
Student Nonmember*	\$144	\$184

The conference registration package includes Thursday, Friday and Saturday education sessions, business meetings, exhibits and social events. 16 CEs will be awarded to attendees who register for all sessions.

Students who register at the discounted student rate are required to attend the Student Forum on Friday. For students to earn CEs for attendance, students must have passed the certification exam before conference.

Conference Hotel: Westin Peachtree Plaza Atlanta
210 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30303

Hotel rooms feature floor to ceiling windows. Negotiated rates do not include taxes or fees:

Single/Double \$199*

Triple \$219*

Quadruple \$239*



MILITARY CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

2020 EVERETT MCCREARY

Jean Carty-Turner, CST, CSFA, FAST, former AST Secretary and Director on the national Board of Directors, had been a member of AST for 26 years before her death in 2015. To honor her father, Everett McCreary, she established a fund to benefit military members. The 2020 Everett McCreary Military Conference Scholarship will offer scholarships of \$1,000 each so that active, retired or disabled members of the military who have never attended a national conference can attend AST's 51st Surgical Technology Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, May 28-30, 2020.

Scholarship Criteria

Applicants for this scholarship must:

- upload documentation of military service (active military ID card or DD Form 214)
- be active, retired or disabled members of AST with uninterrupted membership for a minimum of two years prior to the date of the application. (Students are not eligible.)
- hold current certification (CST) through the NBSTSA.
- have never attended an AST conference and be willing and available to attend the 51st Surgical Technology Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, May 28-30, 2020.
- Write a 300-500-word essay explaining "How I Would Benefit from Attending Conference."
- provide a photo and personal statement about their experiences for the August 2020 issue of The Surgical Technologist.

The Foundation for Surgical Technology Committee will begin reviewing applications February 1, 2020. Scholarships will not exceed \$1,000 each, so recipients will be responsible for costs that exceed the scholarship amount. Scholarship awards may not be transferred to other individuals or used for future conferences (2020 conference only).

http://www.ffst.org/forms/military_scholarship/

NEXT ISSUE

- Road to Directorship
- Mission: Impossible?
- Hosting a Meeting
- News from Atlanta!
- Meridian CSFA Info
- "Your Article Here!!!"

Submit articles to
wiastnews@
gmail.com