



FLORIDA

NEWS

for

Allied  
Health  
Professionals

FSSAMT  
NEWSLETTER

December  
2009

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No. 2



**YOU ARE INVITED TO EARN 20 HOURS OF  
CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT AND VISIT  
GREAT EXHIBITS AT THE  
MAGNOLIA EDUCATIONAL  
TREASURERS CONFERENCE**

Hosted by the AMT state societies of Alabama, Florida, Georgia,  
Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Virginia

**MAJESTIC BEACH RESORT  
PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA  
FEBRUARY 25 – 27, 2010**

Hotel information can be viewed on line at [www.majesticbeachresort.com](http://www.majesticbeachresort.com).

- All the sleeping rooms are full suites and overlook the beach (beautiful Gulf of Mexico). They also have a couch that opens to a bed (except the studios that just have a kitchen, bath and a queen bed).
- The conference center is attached to the hotel towers (we will be in tower 1) by enclosed crosswalks so that no one has to walk far or be outside in case of rain.
- In addition to an infant, kids and 2 adult swimming pools out doors, there are also 2 indoor heated pools - one in each tower.
- The exercise facilities are located in the Conference center and are complimentary to the attendees that are staying at the hotel.
- There is a little store in Tower 1 to buy snacks and sodas, etc.
- They have a bar and grill in Tower 1.

Call 850-563-1000 or toll free 866-494-3364 for reservations. The code to get our contracted rates is #470. Room rates are:

Studio – kitchen, bath and queen bed	\$79
1 bedroom, 1 bath, kitchen, living room with couch that opens to a bed	\$89
2 bedroom, 2 bath, kitchen, living room with couch that opens to a bed	\$109
3 bedroom, 3 bath, kitchen, living room with couch that opens to a bed	\$145

**PRE-REGISTRATION FEES ARE:**

(prior to Feb. 10, 2010) \$10 late fee after 2/10

Full 3 day registration      \$120

Any one day                      \$50

Details are in the program.

**MAGNOLIA EDUCATIONAL TREASURERS  
CONFERENCE** full program may be found on line at  
[www.amt1.com](http://www.amt1.com) and on the Florida website  
[www.floridaamt.com](http://www.floridaamt.com).

**REMEMBER: 2010 IS A RENEWAL YEAR FOR FLORIDA  
LICENSURE. YOU MUST HAVE ALL YOUR CREDITS BEFORE  
AUGUST 2010.**



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## SOUTHERN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S MESSAGE

It doesn't seem that the National Convention has come and already gone. This year's convention was full of great speakers and topics. Keynote speaker, Jeff Skiles was very entertaining. He talked about how important teamwork along with training and following procedures made the miracle that took place on January 15<sup>th</sup> into the Hudson River. He related his experience of that day to the challenges we face in healthcare everyday and that teamwork and continuing our training or education really is important to keep our day to day operations running smoothly.

At this year's convention we had a total of 379 attendees. There were 58 1<sup>st</sup> timers, and 8 were from the Southern District. I expect to see the 1<sup>st</sup> timers at next year's convention. Next year's convention will be at the JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort Spa at Summerlin on July 12-17, 2010. Make plans to attend next year.

I would like to congratulate every award winner. The Southern District has 13 award winners and the two highest and prestigious awards given by AMT were awarded to members in the Southern District. Patricia Poitier-Sands was presented the Medallion of Merit and Charles Baker was presented the Order of the Golden Microscope. Congratulations to all of the award winners for their hard work and dedication to AMT.

Last, I would like to mention that the Council is working on reviewing all forms and manuals to be put on the website. The new President's quarterly form, award form and the State Office's manual should be on the AMT website soon. On the website, it will be separated into three sections: (a) membership, (b) state leaders, and (c) board/council. Also, make sure you read the Council's corner in the AMT Events for record retention and other important information.

Shannon H. Newman, BSMT AMT  
Southern District Councilor

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*Photo will  
be available  
in the next  
issue*

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The "FLORIDA NEWS FOR ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS" is published 2 times a year under the sponsorship of the Florida State Society American Medical Technologists. Any feature appearing in the publication represents only the opinion of the author and not that of the American Medical Technologists or the Florida State Society. The Editor reserves the right to revise any material submitted for publication. Any change of address should be sent to the Editor and the AMT home office. Please send both old and new addresses and your zip code. ■

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays to all of you, whether you are celebrating a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, a Joyous Muslim or Islamic New Year (or any others that I have neglected to mention). Regardless of our individual religious or political beliefs, we are all one very special "Florida AMT Family" and I wish every single one of you peace and love in your heart, good health and prosperity.

Your Florida State Society is trying to make more Continuing Education programs available to you by hosting at least 3 – 5 conferences per year (we had 4 in 2009) at different locations in Florida. Our special big meeting in 2010 will be the 8 state MAGNOLIA EDUCATIONAL TREASURES CONFERENCE in Panama City Beach, February 25 – 27, 2010. Details of this meeting are on the cover of this newsletter and the full program will be on the Florida website ([www.floridaamt.com](http://www.floridaamt.com)) and the national AMT website ([www.AMT1.com](http://www.AMT1.com)). The hotel (all rooms are full suites) is located right on the white sand beach of the beautiful Gulf of Mexico.

**REMEMBER: YOU MUST HAVE ALL YOUR CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED BEFORE AUGUST 2010 TO RENEW YOUR STATE LICENSE.** You can get 20 credit hours at this 3 day meeting including all three of the mandatory courses. You don't want to miss this one!!!!

Kay Ferguson, MT

P. S. If you wish to receive our programs to the educational conferences by e-mail, (I currently send them out to the Coalition members and to the Interested Party List that I have developed), just e-mail me a note at [flakaylab@yahoo.com](mailto:flakaylab@yahoo.com).

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

This was a very busy year for the Florida State Society. We have presented four educational conferences and we started to use the FSSAMT web site to publish the programs. The BIG news is that we are going to start having our news letter published on the web site too ([www.floridaamt.com](http://www.floridaamt.com)). The national Publications Committee has been working out the details to make it possible for each state to use either their own web site or the national AMT web site ([www.AMT1.com](http://www.AMT1.com)) to distribute their state publications to their members. Right now, we are still mailing them to each members, but it is getting very expensive, so we are looking for an alternative way of disseminating the information. If you do not have any computer access, either at home, work or at your local library, please call me at (954) 677-8499 and give me your name (please spell it for me, so that I get it correct), home mailing address and your phone number – just in case I have any questions.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Florida State Society of AMT.

Richard Crowner, MT, RPT



AMT

American Medical Technologists  
Certifying Excellence in Allied Health



## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The Florida Board of Clinical Laboratory Personnel meets three times a year, rotating the sites between south Florida (usually Ft. Lauderdale), central Florida (usually Orlando or Tampa) and north Florida (usually Jacksonville). The last meeting was in Ft. Lauderdale on December 4, 2009. These meetings are very interesting and are comprised of information regarding possible rule changes, state legislative updates and disciplinary cases. At this meeting it was emphasized that although there is a new category of molecular pathology, any current licensee who is performing molecular testing in an area (like microbiology) that they are licensed, may do so under the Florida law. They do not need a separate molecular pathology license. Molecular tests are also being developed in clinical chemistry and hematology. When introduced to the laboratory after being approved, personnel with licenses in those areas will also be able to perform the testing.

In the past, personnel who applied and met all the qualification for a Medical Laboratory Technician license, were given a generalist license, listing all five of the basic laboratory categories. In the future, applicants may apply in a single category (ie: hematology, chemistry, etc.) if they desire.

NOTE: if you choose to attend one of the state Board of Clinical Laboratory Personnel meetings, you will receive 1 hour of continuing education credit in Florida Law and Rules. The meetings for 2010 are scheduled for April 9, 2010 in Tampa, August 13, 2010 in Ft. Lauderdale and December 3, 2010 in Jacksonville.

Richard Crouner, MT, RPT  
Legislative Chair

## OBITUARY



**Linda Wolfe**

We are very sad to inform you that we lost a VERY SPECIAL friend and member of our Florida AMT “family” last month. Linda was a past Florida State President and had also served AMT as a National Board Member for nine years. Although she had been very ill for the past few years, Linda stayed active with the Florida State Society and served as a very valuable Board of Directors member right up to the end of her life. Please keep her dear husband, Charles, in your prayers. They would have been married for 49 years, the day after her death. Linda mentored so many of our members and advised our Board of Directors continually. She will definitely be missed.

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## WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ADDED TO OUR E-MAIL “INTERESTED PARTIES” LIST?

Those on the list are the first to receive programs to all of the Florida State Society educational programs plus legislative and meeting notice information from the Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration and the Florida Board of Clinical Laboratory Personnel. To have your name and e-mail address added to the list, just e-mail your President, Kay Ferguson, at [flakaylab@yahoo.com](mailto:flakaylab@yahoo.com).



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**DATED MATERIAL**



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**COMING EVENTS**

**Feb. 25 - 27, 2010**

Magnolia Educational Treasures  
Panama City Beach, Florida

**June 19, 2010**

FSSAMT Educational Conference  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

**July 12 - 17, 2010**

AMT National Convention  
Las Vegas, Nevada