

NCSA-AST CONNECTION



HAPPY
HOLIDAYS
FROM
NCSA-AST!!

2016 National Conference

It's that time of year again to start making plans for the AST 47th Annual National Conference. This year it will be in sunny San Diego, CA at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina on May 31st through June 4th. Come join us for a week full of learning and a great way to earn your CEs.

Extend your stay and enjoy the local beaches, Sea world or even the famous San Diego Zoo! Hope to see you there!



Conference Information

For the latest conference information please visit AST

<http://www.ast.org>



In this Issue:

- National Conference
- Legislation News
- Board Member Message
- Annual NCSA Two Day Meeting



LEGISLATION NEWS

We have exciting news from the legislation committee for the state of NC!

In October, the Legislative Committee along with Cathy Sparkman and Vanessa Smucny (from AST) interviewed several lobbyists from the McGuire Woods Consulting Group in Raleigh. After several weeks of reviewing what each lobbyist had to offer we are now proud to announce North Carolina has hired a lobbyist.

In January we will be meeting with them to go over the Grassroots strategy for our state. We are looking forward to big things in the future!

By: Heather Hodges



Board Member Message

My name is Heather Hodges. I have been married for 18 years and I am a mother of two boys, who always keep me on my toes. Before becoming a CST, I worked in play therapy with Autistic children. I found Surgical Technology and never looked back. I graduated from Cabarrus College of Health Sciences in August of 2011 Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa. I truly love what I do. I am the General and Robotics Coordinator at Carolinas Medical Center Northeast. I have been here since graduation in 2011. I love the relationships I have gained with the surgeons, fellow techs, and nurses. Several years ago I went to the National Conference in New Orleans. After that conference, I decided I needed to be more involved. In 2013, I was elected to the state board and have served two terms for the state. I am looking to join the state at an executive level come spring and eventually be more involved on the national level. The relationships and experiences I have encountered are boundless. Legislation was my main driving point for joining the board. Our jobs are so important; we play such an important role in the operating room. Our surgeons as well as fellow staff and most importantly patients depend on it. I am proud to say that as of October we have hired a lobbyist and are moving forward in this new endeavor. I look forward to see the growth and changes that are in store for the state of North Carolina and for our profession.

By: Heather Hodges



NCSA Annual Two Day Convention: Operation Excellence

Come join us at the annual convention on March 12-13, 2016!

- Annual meeting and elections.
- National Representatives attending!
- Earn 12 CE credits!
- Informative speakers and topics.
- Location: Concord, NC

More information to come in meeting brochure!

Community Outreach

Please join us in supporting Jeff Gordon Children's Hospital!

We will be collecting **NEW**:

- Blankets and Pillows
- Toothpaste and Tooth Brushes
- Coloring Books and Crayons
- Books and Toys
- Games

ELECTIONS

Positions available on the NCSA-AST:

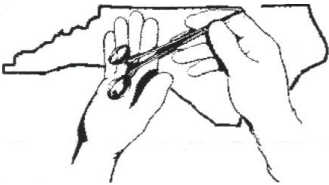
- *Secretary*
- *Three Board of Directors*

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on North
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events.

Check out our
webpage!

<http://nc.ast.org/>



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