



Minnesota Society of Diagnostic Ultrasound

MSDU 32nd Annual Spring Seminar

Jane J.K. Burns, AS, RT, RDMS, MSDU President

October 2011

The Track Chairs are finalizing their programs and confirming the faculty for our upcoming Spring Seminar. Our program will start on Friday evening, March 23rd, 2012 at the Northland Inn in Brooklyn Park. The hands-on scan sessions will begin at 7 pm. This year we will offer scan sessions in Fetal Echo, 3-D Fetal Echo, Pediatric Hips, Venous Insufficiency with Perforators, Elastography and "Just for Students". This provides a valuable opportunity for hands-on experience at difficult and/or new procedures that will help in our ever expanding roles as staff sonographers.

Saturday, March 24th, begins our lecture phase of the program, with three tracks available for our attendees. This allows you the flexibility to attend the lectures that best suit your current needs for training and education.

The Healthcare Reform and Ultrasound

Recently I attended a meeting that reviewed some of the highlights of how the national healthcare reform plan will affect sonography. A major highlight was that reimbursement for Medicare will be attached to professional licensing. Right now they estimated that there are >50,000 sonographers practicing without credentials.

This means employers and sonographers will have to plan for the future and overcome the challenges of getting sonographers credentialed. There are new avenues, including on-line review courses, which allow the sonographer to remain in the

Some of the faculty members currently scheduled are: Dr. Leslie Scutt, Mani Montazemi, Jill Beithon, Patrick Washko, Cynthia Rapp, Dr. Alexander, Dr. J.P. Hughes, Dr. Kirsten Dummer, Christopher Carter, Dr. David Lin, Dr. Chad Olinger, Dr. Retu Saxena and Dr. Bobbi Hoppe. This program provides you with an opportunity to earn up to 13 CME's.

Saturday evening at the Wine and Cheese event, you will have a chance to visit with your fellow sonographers and exchange new ideas. Door prizes will be given out at 6 pm. The Grand Prize has yet to be determined. Then the fun and festivities will continue with the band "High Brow and the Shades".

The evening will wrap up at 11 pm with the Sunday morning sessions to resume at 8 am. Make plans to attend this wonderful event. It's a great way to keep up on the ever changing field of sonography and meet new people.

workforce while preparing to take a registry exam.

Another trend is that it will become the new expectation to have facilities

accredited. This will help to ensure that departments meet minimum quality standards. The most familiar accreditation organizations are ACR, ICAVL and ICAEL.

Depending on the final guidelines enforced by Medicare, failure to comply with the recommendations

may result in a loss of revenue for healthcare facilities. The take home message is to be proactive and determine what your facility expectations are for staff credentialing and accreditation.

— Chris Walski, BS, RT, RDMS, RVT

To become a member contact

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Are
You
Ready?



Minnesota Society of Diagnostic Ultrasound

MSDU President Updates

Jane J.K. Burns, AS, RT, RDMS

Our last Board meeting was held on October 8, 2011. Several proposals were presented to assist our Members during the current hard economic times. I am pleased to announce that the Board has approved three great incentives for our Members.

- 1) A reduction in membership fees for the upcoming year. Any member who completes their annual renewal by December 31st, 2011, will pay \$15.00. **That is a 50 % reduction in the renewal fee.** Those members who have already renewed their membership can expect to have a reimbursement check sent to them. Those who wait to renew their membership until after January 1st, 2012, will pay the usual annual fee of \$30.00.
- 2) Anyone who completes their membership renewal prior to December 31, 2011, will automatically be included in a random drawing for "free tuition" to our 2012 Spring Seminar. **That is a \$225.00 Savings.** We will draw one name from the Members list and one name from the Students list.
- 3) **A subsidized tuition for the Spring Seminar of \$50 for members and \$20 for students.** That means that a member who signs up by the early bird tuition deadline, will see their cost go from \$225 down to \$175. This is the lowest price we have offered in over 10 years.

The Board would like to use the money we have in our account to provide a High Quality program at a reduced cost for Sonographers. We realize that fewer and fewer employers offer tuition reimbursement for continuing education costs and we want to help as much as possible.

This is a one-time reduction, so don't miss out on this great opportunity.

Please visit our website at www.msdu.org and follow the prompts for membership renewal and upcoming instructions for registration for the Spring Seminar, which is being held at the Northland Inn on March 23rd -25th, 2012.

If you have a topic you would like to submit for the newsletter please email Chris Walski at ChrisWalski@msdu.org

help
wanted!

Remember to check out the MSDU website (msdu.org) for the recently posted job opportunities. If you wish to post a job, please contact Jane Burns at janeburns@msdu.org