

## IT'S TIME TO START PLANNING YOUR TRIP TO PHILADELPHIA FOR THE SNM ANNUAL MEETING

It's not too early to begin planning your trip to Philadelphia for the 51st Annual Meeting of the SNM, June 19–23. To help with the planning of your educational program, we have provided a matrix of the continuing education (CE) opportunities designed by the SNMTS Scientific and Teaching Committee on page 43.

Other opportunities for technologist CE credit will include physician categoricals and, for the first time, scientific paper sessions. Last June the SNMTS National Council, at the recommendation of the Continuing Education Committee, voted to allow peer-reviewed scientific paper sessions to be considered for continuing education credit. It is the view of the Continuing Education Committee that “scientific paper sessions include research or works in progress that have real value to the daily practice of nuclear medicine technologists. Furthermore, attendance at scientific paper sessions encourages research and teaches how research is to be conducted, which further serves to enhance the field of nuclear medicine.” Scientific paper sessions that are eligible for CE credit will be listed on the CE credit reporting forms supplied to technologists at the annual meeting.

The Society of Nuclear Medicine was incorporated in March 1954, so this year we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of our association. The society was not incorporated until after its first annual meeting, so between last June's celebration of the 50th anniversary of the annual meeting and this year's anniversary of the founding of the Society, we have a lot of celebrating going on.

Philadelphia may not have the reputation for fun that New Orleans has, but you have to love a city famous for cheese-steak sandwiches and American Bandstand. Our gala event on Saturday night at the Philadelphia Marriott will

feature an American Bandstand theme (but probably not cheese-steak sandwiches). We're very excited about this event. The Dovells, Danny and the Juniors and Bobby Rydell will all be performing on this special night. Tickets are limited—and expected to sell out—so order yours today.

The popular “Who Wants to be a Nuclear Medicine Millionaire?” show has been dropped from the June lineup by network executives and its time slot given to “Honey, I Stumped the Audience!” Using an interactive format, Master of Ceremonies Jack A. Ziffer, MD, PhD, will lead a panel of technologists and physicians who will test the knowledge of participants on key nuclear medicine issues, focusing primarily on PET, myocardial perfusion imaging, and oncology. The subject matter will cover a wide range of topics and skill levels for both technologists and physicians. Tune in on Monday, June 21, at 4:30 PM at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Room 108A. Come on down!

### Registration

You may register for the meeting and reserve your hotel through our website at [www.snm.org/am](http://www.snm.org/am). The Society asks that all attendees who need hotel accommodations reserve their rooms through us. By participating in our housing arrangements, you give us the buying power to negotiate lower rates not only for hotels but also for the use of the convention center, which helps keep your registration fees low. We also use this buying power to provide free (as in, really free, not just tacked on to your room rate as some associations have been known to do) shuttle service.

### Exhibit Hall

You won't want to miss an opportunity to see and talk with vendors from the companies that are developing the newest innovations in your field. Our exhibit hall will be open Saturday from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM during the welcome

reception, Sunday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

With over 140 vendors coming, you may want to develop a strategic plan for your trip to the exhibit hall. Be sure that you don't miss a vendor that you particularly want to see or wind up lost in an area devoted to technologies that aren't relevant to your practice. The Virtual Exhibit Hall, online now in the Annual Meeting section of our Web site ([www.snm.org/am](http://www.snm.org/am)), lets you walk through a virtual version of our exhibit space. Click on any booth and get details about the company.

The Virtual Exhibit Hall is a great way to plan your trip to the real exhibit hall. Of course, just wandering around is also fun. For anyone who can't make it to the meeting, the Virtual Exhibit Hall is the next best thing. For those who *can* come, be sure to attend the welcome reception, hosted by our exhibitors, Saturday 6:00 to 8:00 PM. And don't miss Amersham Health's Happy Hour on Monday from 4:00 to 5:00 PM.

### Sessions of Special Interest to Technologists

A technologist certification exam review and mock certification exam class will be held Saturday and Sunday, June 19–20. Designed as a review for students and technologists preparing to sit for the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) examination, the study session is not included in the meeting registration fee. You may register for this class when you register for the meeting.

Three joint plenary sessions are scheduled in addition to the Technologist Section plenary on Tuesday morning. Monday's joint plenary session will include a keynote address by Valentin Fuster, MD, and Carlo M. Croce, MD, on “New Directions in Coronary Artery Disease and Cancer.”

A brunch for technologists attending their first SNM annual meeting will be held Sunday morning from 10:30 to

11:30 AM. The brunch will feature a presentation on the educational and social programs available at the annual meeting that should be very useful in getting the most out of your trip to Philadelphia. The Technologist Section leaders usually drop by the First-Timer's Brunch so this is a great place to get to meet the people that are guiding your organization as well as other techs.

Be sure to plan to attend the Technologist Section business meeting and scientific awards presentation at the end of the technologist educational program on Tuesday afternoon. SNMTS President Lyn Mehlberg, BS, CNMT, FSNMTS, will report on the current status and future direction of the SNMTS. Other topics will include the presentation of the Technologist Section awards and the installation of Nanci Burchell, CNMT, FSNMTS, as SNMTS President.

After the business meeting, what else? . . . a party, of course. A band, DJ, dancing, great food, and a final opportunity to socialize with your fellow techs makes the annual Technologist Section party a great way to wind up the annual meeting. Beginning at 8:30 PM Tuesday night at the Philadelphia Marriott, the tech party is sponsored by all exhibitors and planned with care by the SNM Meetings Department.

The annual meeting will end, as it has for the past 27 years, with the Annual Meeting Highlights Lecture presented by Henry N. Wagner, Jr., MD, of the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. On Wednesday morning, Dr. Wagner will share his views of the papers presented at the annual meeting and announce his choice for the Image of the Year.

## INTRODUCING THE NEW SOCIETY OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE WEBSITE

Welcome to a new era in SNM internet service! The new SNM website, still at [www.snm.org](http://www.snm.org), was designed to reflect the professionalism and flexibility of your organization for years to come and is equipped with a

multitude of sophisticated new features including:

### Multiple Navigational Schemes

- **Access is now easier than ever.** The new organizational structure allows swift, easy access to any given page within a few clicks.
- **Portfolio views.** Main sections now have "portfolio views" which provide one-click access to all subsections.
- **"Resources for. . ." pages.** We realize that some pages on [snm.org](http://snm.org) appeal to certain people more than others. The "Resources For" section—located on the top bar of every page—allows you quick access to special topics that are most important to you.

### Robust Search Engines

- **Search [snm.org](http://snm.org).** Locate what you need by searching the website using key words. This helpful new feature is on the left side of every page.
- **Government Relations search engine.** Search the Government Relations News Archive for articles related to specific issues or government agencies.
- **CE credit search engine.** Search by credit type (AMA PRA, VOICE, ACPE, CAMPEP) for the activity, meeting, product, etc., that offers the continuing education credits you need.

### Personalize [snm.org](http://snm.org)

- **Membership privileges.** When logged in as an SNM member, you can access the improved Membership Directory, update the status of your SNM membership, access the Scientific Abstract archives, get e-mail addresses invisible to non-members, download and read minutes from SNM and SNMTS committee meetings, and more.
- **My Account.** Logged-in members can now view and modify the status of their SNM account by clicking the My Account button on the

top navigational bar of every page. Need to renew your membership? The system will let you know. Saved pages (see below) are also collected here.

- **Print, e-Mail, and Save a Page icons.** See something particularly interesting? Take advantage of our page options on the top right of each page. The Print icon will send the page to your printer, whereas the e-Mail icon allows you to send the page to an interested colleague. Once logged in, the Save icon places a shortcut to that page on your personal "My Account" page. For example, you can save a news article you're in the middle of reading and find it later with one click. Or start a collection of personal shortcuts to the places you visit most.

### Additional New and Redesigned Areas

- Newly revamped Membership Directory
- All-new Legislative Alert Center
- Redesigned PET Learning Center
- Rebuilt CE online examinations process
- Revamped committee, councils, and centers of excellence pages
- Minutes from governance meetings (available to members only)
- All-new Scientific Abstracts Archive with search features
- Helpful new main sections (like Meetings, Publications, News Center, Career Center, and more)
- Redesigned, easily navigated Job Bank
- Overhauled Calendar with search function

### Flexibility

The new website's strongest feature is its flexibility. The cutting-edge tools and web applications we use in the background to run [snm.org](http://snm.org) allow an infinite number of manipulations, revamps, and build-ons. We can keep improving and modifying the website and its features to stay ahead of the curve for years to come.

#### Planned features:

- 100% new e-Communities application
- New PET Center of Excellence website
- Coding and Reimbursement Q&A
- Feature of the Week
- Help section

Members and all website users are invited to explore the new website and send comments, suggestions, and concerns to [webmaster@snm.org](mailto:webmaster@snm.org).

#### PET LEARNING CENTER TECHNOLOGIST TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR 2004

The 2004 schedule for the PET Learning Center's technologists training sessions will include 3 sessions at the headquarters of the SNM in Reston, VA, and a West Coast session at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, Palo Alto, CA.

Each participant in the PET Learning Centers will have an opportunity to use various computer workstations during the weekend training session while earning up to 18 VOICE credits. The small class size will allow maximum participation by attendees in each of the workshops and an opportunity to interact with the expert PET faculty. Topics will include PET physics, instrumentation, radiopharmaceuticals, imaging, neurology, cardiology, and more.

A maximum of 15 participants will be registered for each weekend. Workshops begin Fridays at 1 PM and end Sundays at 3 PM. Participants will receive a take-home manual at the workshop.

The dates and instructors for each session are:

#### Virginia sessions:

##### March 19–21, 2004

David Coates, CNMT  
Paul Christian, CNMT  
Jennifer White, CNMT

##### October 15–17, 2004

David Eve, CNMT  
Leroy Stecker, CNMT  
Jason Wessel, CNMT

##### November 12–14, 2004

Instructors to be announced

#### California session:

##### July 9–11, 2004

Kathy Hunter, CNMT  
Jennifer Kepler, CNMT  
Nancy Swanston, CNMT

To register, contact the SNM Meetings Department at [MeetingsInfo@snm.org](mailto:MeetingsInfo@snm.org) or 703-708-9000 x1229, or register online at [www.snm.org/petlc](http://www.snm.org/petlc).

#### SYMPOSIUM ON CARDIOVASCULAR MOLECULAR IMAGING PLANNED FOR MAY

The American Society of Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC) is hosting a symposium on cardiovascular molecular imaging at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, May 3–4. Premier educational sponsors of the symposium include the SNM, ASNC, the American College of Cardiology, the American Society of Echocardiography, the Academy of Molecular Imaging, and the Association of Black Cardiologists.

Program objectives include educating the scientific community about the potential of targeted cardiovascular molecular imaging, providing an overview of critical issues related to devel-

opment of targeted radiolabeled tracers and tracer imaging technology, reviewing the imaging of cardiac reporter genes and gene expression, defining the potential of imaging of cardiac receptors and metabolism, promoting basic science research and clinical applications of cardiovascular molecular imaging, and providing an overview of the potential of molecular imaging for improving the understanding and management of critical cardiovascular pathophysiological processes.

Program co-chairs include James Caldwell, MD, University of Washington, (Seattle); Robert Gropler, MD, Washington University (St. Louis, MO); Lynne Johnson, MD, Brown University (Providence, RI); Leslie Leinwand, PhD, University of Colorado (Boulder); Albert Sinusas, MD, Yale University School of Medicine (New Haven, CT); and Heinrich Schelbert, MD, PhD, UCLA School of Medicine (Los Angeles, CA), the newly appointed editor of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine*.

For more information and online registration go to [www.asnc.org/meetings/imaging.cfm](http://www.asnc.org/meetings/imaging.cfm), or contact ASNC at [admin@asnc.org](mailto:admin@asnc.org) or 301-493-2360.

#### VOICE CREDIT FOR JNM PET/CT SUPPLEMENT AVAILABLE

Articles in the PET/CT Supplement which mailed with the January issue of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine* have been approved for up to 10 hours of continuing education for nuclear medicine technologists. Subscribers may also read the articles online at <http://jnm.snmjournals.org/cgi/content/full/45/1/DC1>. For more information on taking the VOICE exams, go to [www.snm.org/PET-CTsupplement/CE](http://www.snm.org/PET-CTsupplement/CE).