Technologist News

The Scene Is Set for Orlando . . .

In a word, the outlook for the Fifth Annual Winter Meeting of the Technologist Section is "more."

More in programming—a scientific program containing five tracks: Cardiac, Radioimmunoassay, Clinical, and Camera Imaging, with the fifth track covering Management and Education.

More CEU credit offered than ever before—with a new system guaranteed to simplify the VOICE application procedure. (See "The VOICE Box," p. 186, this issue.)

More attention to the needs of the working staff technologist—with all the tracks featuring practical lectures and "how to" workshops.

There will also be a "first" at this year's Winter Meeting; the Scientific Program includes submitted papers and exhibits. Michael Cianci, Scientific Program Chairman, says the response to the call for papers for the Meeting has been "fantastic."

Add to this the delights of the Orlando setting in February and the attractions of nearby Disney World and it's no wonder that the Feb. 2-4 meeting promises to be one of the best in the Section's history.

Since the core of any SNM meeting is its scientific content, Mr. Cianci and the Scientific Program Committee have worked especially hard to present thorough, useful educational sessions, with a range broad enough to appeal to every level of technologist interest.

"The major portion of each session is dedicated to the working level staff technologist or the senior level technologist," Mr. Cianci says. "There's definitely something for everyone—educators, staff technologists, students—every technologist."

"For example," he notes, "someone who comes to Orlando specifically for the radioimmunoassay program can indeed spend 2½ days attending RIA sessions. No session will be repeated this year and the Saturday RIA session features a CEU-credited workshop, similar to the successful RIA workshops held at the Annual Meeting in Chicago last June.

"Similarly, the Cardiac Track begins with a 2-hour lecture by Dr. Gerald Pohost from Massachusetts General Hospital on the anatomy and physiology of the heart," Mr. Cianci adds. This lays the groundwork for the rest of the 12 hours of this track, which may be termed "how to."

"Sophisticated but not esoteric," is Mr. Cianci's summary of the program.

The Clinical Track offers a broad range of topics from bone imaging to a discussion of the types of films used in nuclear medicine to new techniques using krypton-85, something very new and promising in the field.

Actual hands-on use of scintillation cameras will occur in the camera workshops. Participants first attend a prerequisite lecture and then move on to the workshops, which have limited registration (preregistration is required).

"Winter" in Orlando: 70° and rising . . .

"The aim of the camera workshop," Mr. Cianci says, "is to show the sensitivity and resolution of different types of collimators that are used with different types of cameras. Several different makes of cameras will be used. It's designed for technologists to get some actual experience in producing pictures and using phantoms."

For the "potpourri" track, sessions devoted to management and education are featured. The many elements of successful management will be explored "building block" style; that is, technologists with some management experience are most likely to benefit. What's ahead in NMT licensing, the legal aspects of NMT, and clinical performance evaluations will be aired in the education sessions.

And the social program? "Good sun and fun" is Mr. Cianci's promise. The fun begins at the Thursday night "Ice-Breaker" cocktail party and continues at Friday night's gala buffet dinner dance, with a lively rock band providing music. Orlando's 70° "winter" weather makes sunshine almost a certainty. The final item on the social program is Sunday morning's tequila sunrise/bloody mary breakfast, where it is hoped that all attendees will gather to bring the meeting to its official close.

Most likely, Disney World will beckon after breakfast—especially since the Winter Meeting dates were rearranged this year to leave Sunday open for enjoyment of Orlando's most famous attraction. The Sheraton Twin Towers Hotel will be providing buses to Disney World on the hour; this will be the only means of free transportation.

In conjunction with the scientific program, the National Council Delegates will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 1; the semi-annual Business Meeting will take place Friday, Feb. 3, beginning at 5:30 p.m., and all technologists are invited to attend.

The Orlando Meeting at a Glance

The following are highlights of the Scientific Program for the Fifth Annual Winter Meeting of the Technologist Section. For complete details, including the time and location of each session, please refer to the Meeting Program.

CARDIAC SESSIONS

Friday, Feb. 3

Physiologic and Anatomic Aspects of Nuclear Cardiology. Gerald Pohost, MD, Massacusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA.

Dynamic Cardiac Studies. John Carpenter, Mt. Sinai Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI.

Technical Aspects of Gated-Cardiac Studies. Nancy Moynihan, Union Carbide Corp., Norwood, MA.

Myocardial Perfusion Studies. John Kozar, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA.

Saturday, Feb. 4

What Is Needed to Do Cardiac Studies from a Computer Standpoint? Douglas Wigton, Application Specialist, Ohio Nuclear Corp., Solon, OH.

Cardiac Imaging in a Community Hospital. Gary Gallamore, Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune, NJ.

An Overview of Cardiac Studies—Case Presentations. H. William Strauss, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA.

Mobile Cardiac Studies. John D'Arcangelo, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA.

SCINTILLATION CAMERA SESSIONS

Friday, Feb. 3

Scintillation Camera Lecture, Part I: Current Status of Imaging Instrumentation and Its Future. David Rollo, MD, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.

Scintillation Camera Lecture, Part II: Current Status of Nuclear Medicine Imaging Studies with Emphasis on Radiopharmaceuticals and Techniques. Barry A. Siegel, MD, Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, St. Louis, MO.

Scintillation Camera Hands-On Workshop. Don Bernier, Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, St. Louis, MO.

RADIOIMMUNOASSAY SESSIONS

Thursday, Feb. 2

Clinical Significances of Radioassay in Perspective. Fuad Ashkar, MD, Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL.

Radioassay Uses in Forensic Medicine. Thomas Heggert, MD, County Medical Examiner, Orlando, FL.

Friday, Feb. 3

Theory and Principles of RIA. David Plaut, Scientific Specialist, Dade Div., American Hospital Supply Corp., Miami, FL.

Trouble-Shooting Radioassay. Kent Painter, PhD, Western Chemical Research Corp., Fort Collins, CO.

Quality Control of RIA. David Plaut.

Automation of Radioassay—General Concepts. Kent Painter, PhD.

Panel Presentation. Kent Painter, PhD, Moderator.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Radioassay Method Evaluation Seminar. Eileen Nickoloff, PhD, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, MD.

Precision and Reproducibility. Edward James, Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC.

Intra-Assay Precision (Pipet Quality Control). Danielle Battaglia, Hunter Memorial Laboratory, Washington, DC.

Sensitivity: Least Detectable Dose. Edward James.

Specificity: Cross Reactivity. Danielle Battaglia.

Kinetics: Reaction Variables. Helen Mikesell, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, MD.

Normal Range Determination. Danielle Battaglia.

CLINICAL SESSIONS

Thursday, Feb. 2

An Approach to Clinical Emission Computerized Tomography. J. M. Brady, G. D. Searle Corp., Des Plaines, IL.

Emission Reconstructed Tomography (ECAT). Richard Tucker, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Brighton, MA.

The Many Facets of Tc-99m Phosphate Imaging. Richard Holmes, MD, University of Missouri Medical Center, Columbia, MO.

Everything You Wanted to Know about Kr-85 Lung Ventilation Imaging. Richard Ulrich, Mt. Sinai Medical Center, Miami Beach, FL.

Overview of Deep Vein Thrombosis Detection Utilizing I-125 Fibrinogen. Saul Needleman, PhD, Abbott Laboratories, Abbott Park, N. Chicago, IL, and John Reilley, Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA.

Friday, Feb. 3

Clinical Applications of Solid-State Detectors in Nuclear Medicine. L. David Wells, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS.

Pediatric Nuclear Medicine Update. James J. Conway, MD, Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL.

Rapid Diagnosis of Gallbladder Disease. Edward A. Eikman, MD, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

On-Line Digital Computer Evaluation of Renal Function. P. Todd Makler, MD, Temple University, Health Science Center, Philadelphia, PA.

An Overview of Film Types and Characteristics Available for Multiformat Devices. Ronald P. Schwenker, PhD, E. I. DuPont Co., Wilmington, DE.

EDUCATION SESSIONS

Friday, Feb. 3

Assessing the Needs of Nuclear Medicine Educators. Louis Izzo, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT.

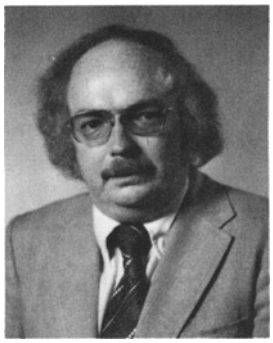
Saturday, Feb. 4

Legal Aspects of Nuclear Medicine Technology. John Carlson, Attorney-at-Law, Tallahassee FL.

Licensing and Credentialing of Nuclear Medicine Technologists—A Panel Discussion. Barbara K. Horton, DeKalb General Hospital, Decatur, GA, Moderator.

Clinical Performance Evaluation. Elaine Cuklanz, Bryman School, Salt Lake City, UT.

Message from the President



The Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) has recently been established and will offer its first examination on Sept. 15, 1978. The Board will give nuclear medicine technologists the responsibility of setting the standards of professional competence for the people working within the profession. However, since certification is a voluntary process, the Board cannot ensure that only competent individuals will practice nuclear medicine technology.

I believe the time has come for us to pursue a means by which the public's health and safety, as well as the competent technologist's, are protected from incompetent practitioners. This can be achieved through licensure. State licensure of a profession prohibits someone from working in the field unless certain qualifications are met. In this way, licensure serves as a means of quality control. Licensure, also, is commonly recognized as a means by which the state gives professional status.

As recommended in the Technologist Section Position Paper on Licensure, adopted in June of 1976, licensure should be accomplished through a state's acceptance and adoption of national certification board examinations. In this way, high standards set by the board need not be watered down. Excerpts of this position paper can be found below, and the full text may be obtained by writing the SNM National Office in New York.

Our upcoming Winter Meeting in Orlando features an expanded format this year that includes scientific papers, exhibits, workshops, and seminars. I hope you will have the opportunity to attend this meeting and I wish you all a very happy holiday season.

JAMES K. LANGAN
The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, Maryland

The Technologist Section's Stand on Licensure: Excerpts

Editor's note: *Highlights from the Section's Position Paper on Licensure follow. The paper was adopted in June 1976 by the Technologist Section and the Society of Nuclear Medicine.*

Licensure Alternatives

"If licensure is deemed necesary, the Technologist Section supports a certain type of licensure as a method of assuring competency and protection of the public. From the Section's viewpoint, there are three approaches that can be taken to implement licensure:

"(1) Individual state licensure in which each state establishes its own criteria and minimum standards for training program accreditation, technologist certification, and licensure.

"(2) Federal legislation which would require the federal government to provide states with criteria and minimum standards for training program accreditation, technologist certification, and licensure. States would be required to adopt these federal standards or more stringent state requirements could be implemented.

"(3) State licensure through state acceptance and adoption of national certification. The federal government would assist in establishing a national (non-federal) certification system. National standards for accreditation and certification would be established through a collaborative effort of the federal government, professional associations, state goverments, recognized certifying organizations, and other interested parties."

Recommendations and Position

"The third approach—state licensure through state acceptance and adoption of national certification—is the most practical approach. Since this alternative incorporates use of national standards but still allows for state control and adaptation to fulfill local needs, the national standards would be adopted by the states, thus maintaining uniformity and consistency and facilitating reciprocity and mobility between states. State adoption of national standards would be likely because of requirements for reimbursement under federal health insurance programs....

"In conclusion, the Technologist Section feels that the above supported licensure approach is important as a way of maintaining competency and public protection. In developing licensure, the Section feels that the interaction of accreditation, certification, continuing education, national standards development, and licensure must be carefully considered since all of these will have an important affect/effect on the competency of nuclear medicine technologists and the quality of the health care they provide."

Nobel Prize in Medicine Goes to Rosalyn Yalow, RIA Discoverer

The first Nobel Prize-winning member of the Society of Nuclear Medicine is Rosalyn Sussman Yalow, PhD, of the Veterans Administration Hospital, the Bronx, NY.

Dr. Yalow, a 56-year-old medical physicist and a Full Member of the SNM since 1966, was honored for her pioneering work in the development of radioimmunoassay, "a spectacular combination of immunology, isotope research, mathematics, and physics," as the Nobel citation reads.

Dr. Yalow receives approximately half of the $145,000 that accompanies the Nobel Prize for Medicine. Roger C. L. Guillemin, MD, of the Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, and Andrew V. Schally, MD, of the Veterans Administration Hospital, New Orleans, LA, share the remaining prize money for their separate investigations of peptide hormone production in the brain.

During a press conference held Oct. 13, the day the Nobel winners in medicine were announced, Dr. Yalow said that her only regret was that her collaborator, Solomon A. Berson, MD, with whom she began the investigations in the early 1950s that led to the perfection of RIA, was not alive to share the Nobel with her. The Nobel Prize is not awarded posthumously; Dr. Berson died in 1972.

Oct. 13, 1977—Nobel winner Yalow meets the press.

An initial paper which was to lay the groundwork for the eventual application of the radioimmunoassay technique to determine levels of substances such as hormones, drugs, and enzymes in samples taken from the body was presented during the Society of Nuclear Medicine's Third Annual Meeting in 1956. Since that time, radioimmunoassay has grown to the point where it now accounts for more than 20 million laboratory tests each year. Thus, it comprises better than half of all nuclear medicine procedures performed today.

Fittingly, the Society's Education and Research Foundation chose this year to establish the Berson-Yalow Award both to propagate excellence of in vitro investigation and to honor the achievement of Drs. Berson and Yalow.

Long a prominent member of the Society, Dr. Yalow was a featured speaker at the opening ceremonies of the 24th Annual Meeting, held in Chicago, June 20–23, 1977. Her most recent SNM participation was as the guest speaker at the 2nd Annual Western Regional Meeting, which took place in Las Vegas, NV, in October. Her lecture was, "The Past, Present, and Future of RIA."

Since winning the Nobel Prize, Dr. Yalow has taken the opportunity to defend the Veterans Administration against critics of its medical programs. In Las Vegas, Dr. Yalow told the press that in light of abuses with Medicare and Medicaid, "the VA programs could serve as a model for inexpensive, good medical care." Otherwise, she noted, her life has not changed since she was honored: 60-hour work weeks are still the norm.

Though only the second woman to win the Nobel Prize for Medicine, Dr. Yalow has been honored frequently for her work in the past, most prominently in November 1976, when she received the Albert Lasker Memorial Basic Research Award.

Self-Assessment Program for Technologists Proposed

A program that would enable technologists to be individualy tested in specific areas of nuclear medicine technology at minimum expense is the aim of the Continuing Education Committee's proposed Self-Assessment Program.

Marleen Moore, chairperson of the Committee, describes the current status of the program as "the first rung of the ladder." Reaching the second rung will require the program's approval by the National Council Delegates.

This, Ms. Moore hopes, will be accomplished at the Section's Winter Meeting in Orlando, FL, Feb. 2–4, when she and other members of the Committee—Sheila Rosenfeld and Pat Avery, in particular—present their request for the program to the Council Delegates.

"We are trying to give technologists an additional way of keeping up to date, maintaining confidence, and determining their level of competence," Ms. Moore explains. "We think this is a program that technologists could do individually and at a low cost, as well. The program would feature monographs consisting of multiple choice questions; however, they will not be competitive examinations."

"For the technologist who does not have access to symposiums or to extensive in-house education, or for the technologist who is hundreds of miles away from a big city," she continues, "we think our proposed program would meet the need for continuing education."

The Self-Assessment Program is still quite a ways away from reality—the first monograph would not be available until at least January 1978—but Ms. Moore suggests that all technologists interested in seeing the Self-Assessment Program become a service of the Technologist Section contact their National Council Delegates and express their encouragement.

NMTCB Sets Sept. 15, 1978, as First Examination Date

The Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) has recently made the following policy decisions:

1. The first NMTCB examination will be given Sept. 15, 1978.

2. Applicants will be permitted to take the exam before completing the exam requirements if the requirements are completed before Nov. 1, 1978.

3. Applicants who begin on-the-job training after Jan. 1, 1978, must fulfill OJT requirements of the NMTCB, which state that clinical experience must be conducted under the supervision of a certified nuclear medicine technologist and a physician licensed for use of radionuclides. OJT applicants currently involved in training will be eligible to take the exam after three years of OJT experience have been completed.

The Board has also completed its content specification outline, a breakdown of what the NMTCB will cover. Mark Muilenburg, NMTCB Chairman, points out that this is the first nuclear medicine technologist registry to do so and an indication of the Board's continued, open progress. The exam will allot the following fixed percentages to these categories: nuclear instrumentation, including quality control (23%); dose calculation and administration (10%); imaging procedures/patient care (24%); radiopharmacy (10%); radiation protection (10%); and non-imaging procedures (23%).

NMTCB to Pretest Exam

The NMTCB met most recently in Omaha, NE, from Nov. 18 to 20. Reviewing the exam questions and beginning the actual compilation of the test were on the agenda for that meeting. It was also decided to pretest a facsimile of the exam with representative groups around the country at a later date. A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Section followed in Omaha on Nov. 21.

In related matters, Mr. Muilenburg again represented the NMTCB at December's Constitutional Convention of the National Commission for Health Certifying Agencies, which took place in Miami, FL. James Langan and Susan Weiss, President and President-Elect, respectively, of the Technologist Section, and Margaret Glos, Executive Director of the SNM, also attended the convention. Although the extent of the Society's future involvement with the fledgling NCMCA remains undetermined, it is felt that the development of the Commission, which eventually intends to certify the competence of all health care credentialing bodies, warrants close attention at this time.

For the Section's Fifth Annual Winter Meeting in Orlando, Mr. Muilenburg will deliver an NMTCB progress report during the Business Meeting on Friday, Feb. 3, and he is currently formulating additional means to inform technologists about the Board in the course of the meeting.

The VOICE Box

The Orlando Credit Card

You're at the Technologist Section's Fifth Annual Winter Meeting, planning to complete two of the six CEU courses and to attend at least five of the 24 PAR sessions. There are no sign-up credit sheets in sight, and you're beginning to worry that your PAR and CEU credits aren't being recorded. But this year's VOICE innovation requires that each individual record his or her own credits. The best way to do this is to use the "Orlando Credit Card."

The Orlando Credit Card will be in your meeting registration packet. It is a diagrammed scheme of the entire education program and should be close at hand throughout the entire meeting. To use it, write your name and VOICE number in the indicated areas and make certain that it is stamped in the appropriate places as you enter and leave each session. Remember, sessions must be attended in their entirety if credit is to be earned. If you arrive well after a session has begun, course monitors are instructed not to stamp your card.

However, *attendance at all sessions of each course is not required for CEU credits this year.* For example, there may be 10 hours of material on Cardiac Imaging, but only 6 hours of these are specifically required for CEU credit. Other related sessions are optional, and may earn PAR credits for attendees.

Preregister for Orlando

The Winter Meeting Program will clearly show the sessions that are required for CEU courses. It is recommended that you preregister, to make certain you are able to attend all required sessions.

The topics for which CEU credits may be earned include: Camera Workshops; Clinical Practice; Cardiac Imaging; RIA; Education; and Management.

PAR credits are available for attendance at individual sessions and are not based on the successful completion of examinations or projects as are CEU credits. In addition to the sessions that comprise CEU courses, PAR credits may be earned by attending Scientific Paper sessions and up to 2 hours of attendance at Scientific Exhibits. There is no credit earned for viewing commercial exhibits.

At the conclusion of the entire education program, all Orlando Credit Cards should be submitted to Karen J. Chang, Education Coordinator, who will be staffing the VOICE Booth in the main registration area. Each CEU Course Director will submit a list of CEU credit recipients for his or her course, and these credits will be duly awarded when verified through the Credit Card records.

Looking to Anaheim

Though continuing education is not yet required in the field of nuclear medicine technology, the VOICE program has gained the support of nearly 2,000 technologists across the country. In recognition of their achievement, technologists who have earned a total of 150 credit points (at least 100 CEU points are required) within two years of their VOICE membership anniversary date will be awarded an SNM Certificate of Achievement in Anaheim at the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society.

The Orlando Winter meeting is the perfect opportunity to work towards achieving this award since the topics are so diversified and respond to a wide variety of educational needs.

Computer Print-Outs

Updated, edited computer print-outs of PAR, CEU, and VUE credits earned since June 1976 were mailed to active VOICE members earlier this month. All properly submitted credit requests prior to Nov. 1, 1977, have been entered.

Any records that appear incomplete raise the following questions:

Did the Course Director fulfill all his or her CEU course responsibilities and submit all necessary materials to the Continuing Education Review Board? No CEU credits are awarded until a CEU course file is completed.

Did you list your VOICE number when you signed up for credit?

Did you print your name legibly so that your number could be traced if not properly indicated? Remember, it is the responsibility of each individual to see that PAR and VUE credit applications are properly and legibly submitted, and for Course Directors to complete their course files before CEU credits are entered.

VOICE Dues and Bills

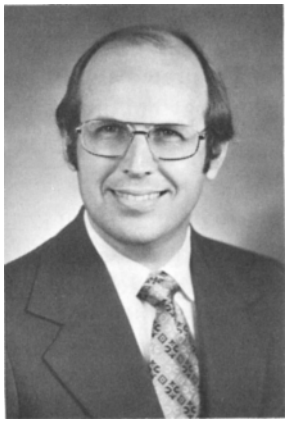
All Society dues are being consolidated into an initial Society bill issued annually each January. Therefore, the annual invoice for 1978 includes a VOICE membership half-year charge for June 1978 to Dec. 31, 1978, for members whose cards expire June 1, 1978. Beginning this December, the VOICE membership year will convert to a Jan. 1-to-Jan. 1 term, rather than a June-to-June term as in the past.

Drs. Haynie and Wagner: Historical Perspective

The Technologist Section of the Society of Nuclear Medicine inaugurated its "Distinguished Honoree" award at the SNM 24th Annual Meeting in Chicago, on June 21, 1977. Thomas P. Haynie III, MD, and Henry N. Wagner, Jr., MD, were chosen to be the first recipients of this award.

With this in mind, Drs. Haynie and Wagner recently recalled their involvement with the Section, particularly their roles in its formation, for the readers of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology*.

Thomas P. Haynie III



Dr. Haynie received his MD degree from the Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, in 1956. His current academic and professional appointments: Chief, Section of Nuclear Medicine, Dept. of Nuclear Medicine, M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute, Houston, TX, and Associate Professor of Medicine and Physiology, The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston. He is also a consultant to the Preventive Medicine Division, NASA, in Houston.

Dr. Haynie, a Full Member of the Society of Nuclear Medicine since 1962, has held the following SNM positions on the national level: Chairman, Committee on Technologist Affairs, 1967–70, and Member, Committee on Education and Training, 1968–70. For the Southwestern Chapter, Dr. Haynie has served as President, 1968–69; Member, Board of Trustees, 1965 to the present; and Secretary-Treasurer, 1972–75.

Dr. Haynie is currently the Vice President-Elect of the Society of Nuclear Medicine.

●

Following are excerpts from Dr. Haynie's recollections of his role in the formation of the Technologist Section:

"I was quite pleased to learn that the Technologist Section had elected me a Distinguished Honoree and I was delighted to attend the Section's Business Meeting at the Annual Meeting in Chicago to be so recognized and to extend my thanks to the Section for this honor.

"The award recalled to my mind the events that began some ten years ago,which led to the establishment of the Technologist Section within the Society of Nuclear Medicine.

"I first became involved with an organization of nuclear medicine technologists in August 1966, when technologists in the Houston area organized what they called

(Continued on page 188)

Henry N. Wagner, Jr.

Dr. Wagner received his MD degree in 1952 from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. He is now Head, Divisions of Radiation Health and Nuclear Medicine; Professor of Medicine; Professor of Radiology and Radiological Science; and Professor of Environmental Health, at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Wagner is also the Director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. A Full Member of the SNM since 1958, Dr. Wagner was President of the Society (1970–1971) when the Technologist Section officially came into being; he had previously served as Vice President of the Society (1967). His other Society activities include membership on the Board of Trustees, the Nominating Committee, and the Computer Committee. He was also a founding member of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine. In 1976, Dr. Wagner was named the Georg von Hevesy Medalist and he is now President of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology (WFNMB).

●

"I highly respect the opinions of technologists, so nothing could have pleased me more."

This was Dr. Wagner's postscript to the "Distinguished Honoree" award presentation. Two of the major goals during his SNM Presidency, he said, were the formation of the Technologist Section and the establishment of an independent registry for nuclear medicine technologists. Encouraging technologists to stay firmly attached to the Society of Nuclear Medicine rather than to separate and form an independent group was another policy emphasized during his term of office.

With the Technologist Section now the fastest-growing branch of the SNM and the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board scheduled to give its first examina-

(Continued on page 188)

Thomas P. Haynie III...

(Continued from page 187)

an Association of Nuclear Medicine Technologists, headed by Gary A. Wood. Mr. Wood and I had joined the M. D. Anderson Hospital staff the previous year. At that time, a Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologists was also being organized independently on the national level; however, the technologists in the Houston area wished to associate themselves with the Society of Nuclear Medicine and they made their desire known to me. I, along with a number of other members of the Society's Southwestern Chapter, assisted them in their organizational efforts. Subsequently, an amendment to the Southwestern Chapter bylaws permitted these technologists to become officially affiliated.

"In June of 1967, at the 14th Annual Meeting of the Society, SNM President Merrill A. Bender, MD, having heard of my efforts on behalf of technologists in the Southwestern Chapter, asked me to chair what was then called the Committee on Technical Affiliates. The Board of Trustees later approved three technologist-related subcommittees for this committee; Gary Wood served as chairman of one of these, the Subcommittee on Technologist Affairs.

"At the 15th SNM Annual Meeting in 1968, the technologist scientific program, which I was to chair for the next two years, was a success. Sessions on radiopharmaceuticals, quality control, scanners and cameras, etc., plus a session of submitted scientific papers were offered. By this time, the Council of Nuclear Medicine Technologists, chaired by Mr. Wood, was also functioning within the Society.

"In preparation for the June 1969 16th Annual Meeting of the Society, I took the time to communicate some personal thoughts to incoming SNM President George V. Taplin, MD: 'The time is approaching and may have arrived when it is desirable to set up a technologist section with its own officers which would hold meetings coinciding with those of the Society and its chapters and be administered through the New York office.'

"Gary Wood and I discussed all of the issues that were going on and concluded that it was time to press for a bylaws change that would establish the Technologist Section. I wrote to Dr. Taplin in July 1969 with this proposal; it was subsequently Dr. Taplin's wise decision that no bylaws changes were necessary to establish the Section. Dr. Taplin perceived, correctly, that the Section could be established with its own constitution and bylaws by the Board of Trustees without going to the general membership. The task became vastly simplified.

"The constitution and bylaws of the proposed Technologist Section were submitted to the officers and chairpersons of the Society's committees in a revised form on Dec. 23, 1969. It is not recorded whether or not the receipt of this infant constitution was associated by any stellar phenomena.

Henry N. Wagner, Jr....

(Continued from page 187)

tion Sept. 15, 1978, Dr. Wagner thinks the future still holds many challenges for both the Section and the field, although the technologist goals initiated during his presidency have been accomplished.

"There is still a shortage of nuclear medicine technologists," Dr. Wagner believes. "To me, one of the limiting factors in the growth of the field has been the limited number of nuclear medicine technologists. This is certainly true in the Baltimore area. There are still many good opportunities for nuclear medicine technologists: many nuclear medicine departments would love to have more technologists on their staffs, knowing this would certainly improve their operations. The market is far from saturated and I believe the field of nuclear medicine technology continues to be a good opportunity today."

"For the June 1970 17th Annual Meeting of the Society, Mrs. Margaret Glos, SNM Executive Director, working with Gary Wood, began innovative features for the technologist functions, such as ribbons for the Technologist Affairs Committee members, and stripes on all technologist badges, to assure high visibility for technologists who attended the Meeting, held that year in Washington, DC. Marleen Tolson suggested having a cocktail party for technologists; so began one of the most popular features of today's Annual Meetings.

"Perhaps the last obstacle to overcome was the question of membership requirement in the Section. Should technologists who did not wish to join the Society be excluded from membership in the Technologist Section? I expressed my belief that any technologist who is honestly interested in the objectives of the SNM should be interested in and have no difficulty obtaining membership in the Society.

"Then in June 1970 I wrote to Henry N. Wagner, Jr., SNM President-Elect, to urge him to support the constitution which would establish the Technologist Section and to request, on behalf of Gary Wood and myself, that we be allowed to retire to the sidelines and that others in the Society be enlisted to work with technologist affairs. Both of us felt that we had run the course, and when the constitution and bylaws were approved by the Board of Trustees, we considered our job completed.

"So for the past seven years, I have had the pleasure of sitting on the side lines, watching the Technologist Section grow stronger and stronger, and more and more effective in its job of serving technologists.

"In June 1971, I was honored previously by the Section with a beautiful sculpture of a seagull. I thought this most appropriate because of the story of Jonathan Livingston Seagull, which tells it all: 'You are, and can do what you are willing to really believe you are and can do.'

"Keep that faith."