

## *Message from Your President*

# About AmSECT

The American Society of Extra-Corporeal Technology—AmSECT—exists for three basic purposes:

First, to unite in one organization, with the help of affiliate chapters in this country and around the world, all persons who practice or are interested in extra-corporeal technology.

Second, to provide information and professional service to the members in the interest of an expanded and improved technology, and

Third, to assume and maintain active leadership in promoting the art of the technology; maximum standards of practice for all, members and non-members, concerned with the technology; and the acceptance by the medical profession and general public of standards for the technology devoted exclusively to the best interests of patients and the art of medicine.

As organizations go, AmSECT is young. It was in 1961 that a handful of technicians first discussed the need for such a Society, just five years ago that a formal nation-wide Society became fact.

Because it is so young, our Society has both made great strides forward and faces a great challenge for tomorrow. Much of our progress to date is the result of evolution of concept to action.

Perhaps the most significant change came in the past year, when, with formal incorporation as a non-profit, educational Society, even the name was changed from the American Society of Extracorporeal Circulation Technicians to the American Society of Extra-Corporeal Technology. While retaining the familiar AmSECT abbreviation of our name, the formal detailed language of the title reflects now a broader view.

That is a view that the technology—its progress and growth—is, must be, the product of all interested: the physician, the hospital administrator and the technician.

It is why, too, each technician and technologist who is a member of AmSECT provides, through his dues, a copy of each issue of this *Journal* to both his internist, or surgeon, and the hospital administrator of his institution.

Since each of the three foci of our Society depends upon communication and the professional exchange of information, we recognize that it is important for you, who are physicians and hospital administrators, to know of the goals of our Society, share our literature.

In future issues—each three months—a portion of the content of this *Journal* will report on the programs and efforts of AmSECT. We hope that you will find each issue interesting . . . will feel free to react to the contents through contributions to any of the departments or to the professional contents.

We hope, too, that it triggers a growing interest in learning more about AmSECT.

*Jim Wade*