



Presidents Message

In the crisis-per-day atmosphere which has settled over the nation, it becomes difficult to believe that anyone will read a message that does not hint at scandal, shortages, or inflation. However, since AmSECT does not have any of these “in” items to present at the moment, we shall press on with the matters at hand. This message will be more news than inspiration. It will be a pot pourri of items and events of which you should be aware.

First, you are holding and reading our newly-designed publication. It is a first step towards establishing a professional communications program for AmSECT members. We feel that it is a big step taken after much discussion and deliberation.

Special salutes should go to Ed Romanowski for his continuing support and labors in the publishing effort and to Emily Taylor for assuming direct editorial responsibility for *The Journal*. Emily and her associate editors have worked long and hard to get this issue to you. I’m sure you all join me in an expression of appreciation. And the outstanding efforts of Human Resources, Inc. should not pass unnoted.

Further to *The Journal*, its survival depends on the quality of its articles. All of you are encouraged to submit material to the publication and to encourage others, your associates, physicians, etc. to do likewise.

And while on encouragement—talk to those friends and associates of yours that are not yet AmSECT members. We feel that the society is well on its way to providing services and programs that make membership worthwhile and valuable.

Moreover, through extraordinary efforts of staff, officers, committee chairmen, and directors, and the medical advisory board, our programs and services successfully encompass both the cardiovascular and nephrology communities. Both the professional in the cardiovascular area and the professional in the hemodialysis and transplant area can find a home in AmSECT.

Elsewhere in this issue of *The Journal*, you will find notice of our summer International Conference to be held in Dallas, Texas. Our friends in Big “D” are expending great volumes of perspiration in preparing for the “best ever” event. We encourage your support in either one or both of two ways: (1) By all means, plan right now to attend the meeting in Dallas, and (2) brush up those papers you’ve been wanting to present and submit them for the scientific program.

Finally, a word—brief word—about who we are. At a recent meeting in Washington, D.C., we, as AmSECT, were urged to “define our roles” so that our position within the medical community could be easily ascertained. We are at work on that project. However, definitions are easily written but not quickly agreed to or accepted.

Wherever and whenever this project terminates, this will be one part of the definition that applies now as it will then. Whether you are in the cardiovascular or hemodialysis field, you are a professional. You are a member of a professional society.

Sincerely,
Charles Reed