

Region IV Update: April 2021

Region IV Director: Dawn Schneider

Happy spring to everyone!!! Theme of the year "Still Stuck in Pandemic Mode"! We had hoped to get back to some normalcy as we welcomed 2021 but that is not happening yet. Many state societies have either cancelled their spring meetings or trying to figure out how to make them virtual. Michigan had a virtual meeting Jan. 22-24. The Illinois Society for Histotechnology is having a virtual Symposium on May 14th, 2021 (see their website for more information www.illinoishistologysociety.org). The Tri-State group of WI, MN, and IA are hosting a monthly series of virtual talks with Roche which goes until May so they postponed their in person meeting in April to 2022. Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky all postponed their in person meetings to 2022.

The NSH Board of Directors has made the tough decision to make our 47th Symposium that is scheduled for September in Omaha, Nebraska to be a three day Virtual Event September 14-16, 2021. The event will include general sessions, workshops, learning labs(interactive) and express talks(15 minute live talks focusing on a key topic). NSH is seeking education that covers all aspects of both clinical and research settings. They are accepting abstracts right now. I really do miss the interactions with my peers by having an in person meeting but I feel that NSH did a great job with the Virtual Symposium last fall and if you did not attend I highly encourage you to do so this year. It was set up really nice and easy to navigate. I especially enjoyed the Vendor Hall interactive segment which allowed you to see their products and even ask questions or watch demos. The HOD will also be held virtually again this year and that went really well too. All the states are looking for Delegates, so if you are interested in being a delegate don't hesitate and contact your state society or myself and I will connect you with your state President.

Along with our state societies, NSH is also facing struggles with membership during this pandemic and we all could use your support during this trying time of not being able to meet in person. NSH has a great education series always going on and other CEU opportunities. Visit www.NSH.org for more information. We all hope we can get through this and see everyone at in person meetings in 2022.

NSH is celebrating LAB Week/Volunteer Week with another virtual happy hour April 22, 2021 from 5:00-6:00 pm. The past few Virtual Happy hours were a lot of fun and it was great to see our fellow Histotechs and talk to them. We had trivia games and broke out into smaller groups and talked about how our labs were changed due to the pandemic and other topics and it was really nice. It was great to see some of our friends on web cameras and to mingle with people we didn't get to see in person in 2020. We even had someone on her phone join as she was leaving her job at a Boston hospital, walking down the street and on the bus, it was really cool that she did that. Visit www.NSH.org to register for free.

Remember to Vote when Elections open up in a few weeks. Remember, we vote for President Elect every year now and then the President Elect voted in last year moves up to President this year. Region IV director will be on the ballot for next year.

As always, Please stay safe and healthy during these trying times!!!

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at dawn.schneider@ascension.org.