Memphis, Tennessee – The birthplace of rock ‘n’ roll! This was the place for our AMT National Convention this year. There was Beale Street – impromptu singers and musicians lining the sidewalk. There were the famous ducks that arrived in the center of the Peabody Hotel twice a day, Martin Luther King and the National Civil Rights Museum, and of course, Graceland (Elvis’s home, just in case you were wondering). Amongst all of these landmarks were many Allied Healthcare Professionals – MTs, MLTs, RMAs, RPTs, and members of other disciplines, as well as students from all over the United States and the Caribbean.

We had a great week, starting off with some educational opportunities as early as Sunday, July 17 – a chance to update CPR. Monday was the Keynote Speaker, Brad Nieder, M.D. He left many who attended with prescriptions for laughter which is much needed in healthcare! He is also the author of *The Healthy Humorist*, which outlines the benefits of laughter and offers wellness advice. I am sure it is a very good read. The next two days offered general education sessions and additional continuing education sessions.

AMT has partnered with the American Kidney Fund (AKF). This year, the fundraiser walk was routed around the Peabody Hotel. The Iowa State Society made a donation toward this fund this year, along with being represented through walking. If there is anyone in Iowa who would like to take on a drive for the American Kidney Fund, please let one of the Iowa State Officers or Board Members know so we can be of help.

The Welcome Party was a success! Elvis did appear and he was a SMASH hit! This year there were Welcome Baskets and gift cards given out by drawings from each state. The party is always a nice social event to see newcomers and everyone back from the year before!

The format this year changed a little. Most of the Educational Sessions were in the beginning of the week and the last couple of days were the AMT National Awards and leadership meetings. My traveling partner, Dr. Tracy Mixdorf, and I, were honored with an invite to the AMT Order of the Golden Microscope and RMA Medallion of Merit Dinner. It is a very special honor to be involved in this dinner. Please refer to your *AMT Events* magazine or on americanmedtech.org for all award winners.

As President of the Iowa State Society, it was an honor to receive the Honor Roll status award this year. We have received this award many years in a row with the help of our Secretary, Treasurer, Co-Editors, myself, and District Councillor, to meet deadlines and criteria throughout the year. Many states received this award this year. Congratulations!
Yes, the heat and humidity did not stop when we arrived and stayed in Memphis, but we had
the beautiful and famous Peabody Hotel, which hosted an excellent week for us all.

Thank you to the members, fellow Officers and Board Members of the Iowa State Society of
AMT for sending me as a delegate to vote for the AMT National Board Members and AMTIE
Board. This year, Nathan Krekula, was also a delegate for Iowa. He also attended the District
Meeting, Meet the Candidates, Town Hall Meeting, and the AMT National Meeting with me.
Nathan was also a speaker at the Convention. Thank you, Nathan, for your dedication to the
healthcare field and your representation.

Also, I would like to thank my co-worker/boss and fellow AMT National Meeting attendee for
the last five years, Tracy Mixdorf, D.O., for taking a break from her busy practice and
encouraging me to think outside the box. Of course, she will not have time to read this article,
as we are both back to work and it is not a medical chart! Thanks again, Tracy! You are a great
travel partner. Thank you for your support of AMT!

I am looking forward to next year, as it will be even closer to Iowa, taking place in Kansas City,
Missouri, on July 9-13, 2017.

Refreshing Regards (don’t know if this is a real salutation, but I’m using it!),

_Beverly Christiansen, RMA, President, Iowa State Society of AMT_