



Dear Colleagues,

We have a guest Reactor Side Chatter this month.

August 1, 2018

Address by a friend of the President of the PSWTC by internet via the Nuc. Gang Website. Delivered from my friend's office situated close to the nearest nuclear reactor in the area. (Arizona)



Dear Colleagues,

I recently finished teaching a research course to second year nuclear medicine students. As a group, they did a great job and several of them are submitting their work for publication in the journal. One of these students has also been asked to speak at a future meeting. He's nervous, as you might well imagine. After all, he's going to be speaking to a wide range of professionals, some of whom will undoubtedly have vastly more experience than he does.

I get it. I was very nervous when I spoke at my first meeting (and every one since!). Even with 20 years of experience in the field (OMG! When did I get to be old?!?), there's still someone in the audience that knows something about any given topic that I don't.

That's the point, really. We all need to share our expertise because we all know something that someone else doesn't. Sharing knowledge is like sharing love. You don't lose it; you multiply it.

I used to think you had to "be someone" to speak at a meeting or get published in the journal. Here's the thing – you don't need to be someone, you ARE someone, someone who has unique skills, knowledge, and ideas and I, for one, want to hear them!

Look, it's hard to put yourself out there. You're afraid of flubbing it. Guess what? I did flub it. In my first talk, I compared tube warm up to women warming up the oven. I knew it was the wrong thing to say as it left my mouth - UGH! It did not go unnoticed either – I heard about it in the comments.

Maybe you will stumble, too. In spite of my faux pas, my talk was well-received. I've been asked to speak again, locally and nationally, and to write for the JNMT and this column (Thanks, Dave!). Just like you, I'm not a "somebody" – you know whom I mean; we probably all have somebody in the Society we look up to - but I think if you asked them, they would tell you that they all started out as nobody, just like us. What we have in common is the desire to grow our knowledge by sharing it with others and to give back to the nuclear medicine community.

If you are like us, I encourage you to get involved. As editor of the JNMT, Kathy Thomas is trying to cultivate technologist submissions to the journal. As a chapter, we are always looking for speakers and volunteers of all kinds. You are someone. Come show us who that someone is.

Lisa Patrick