

# Delegation Newsletter: November 2007

*Below are highlights of the House of Delegate meeting in Orlando, FL on November 29-30, 2007. Please feel free to contact either of the delegates for further clarification or copies of complete written reports.*

## Delegate

Bill Pupanek (608) 267-6107

[wpupanek@meriter.com](mailto:wpupanek@meriter.com)

## Delegate-Elect

Deb Hendrickson (608) 222-0413

[djhendrickson@charter.net](mailto:djhendrickson@charter.net)

## Delegation Report

AARC Executive Office
<p><b><u>AARC EXECUTIVE OFFICE</u></b></p> <p>Sam Giordano, Executive Director, presented topics touching on membership dues, investment revenue, assets and liabilities of the AARC, and the revenue sharing contract that is mailed out each year to the state societies. He discussed the state societies' revenue sharing over the years. Mr. Giordano gave member dues comparisons with other associations and stated that AARC membership is now over 44,550 members, up 7%.</p> <p>2015 &amp; Beyond- first conference is scheduled for March 3-5, 2008 to identify future roles of respiratory therapist in 2015 and beyond.</p>
<p><b><u>AARC COO</u></b></p> <p>Tom Kallstrom, Chief Operating Officer of the AARC, touched on public awareness, mobile spirometry units (MSU), and the high school project (GO GREEN) - which is going into the high schools to tell them about respiratory care, the Life and Breath video, demonstrations of various equipment and procedures pertaining to respiratory care, high school guidance counselors to see if they would be interested in educating their students on the respiratory care profession, promoting professionalism, sharing our message with schools, education about the AARC, booths at health fairs during respiratory care week as well as other times throughout the year, and getting the message out to the media. Mr. Kallstrom stated that the AARC has planned many trips for 2008 to "spread the word" and provide some equipment demonstrations regarding respiratory care.</p> <p><b>(This may be an opportunity for our Public Affairs Committee- MSU, attend high school guidance counselor meetings)</b></p>
ARCF
<p>Michael Amato stated that the Foundation has been growing tremendously. Discussed the success of the 2007 International Fellowship program.</p>
CoArc
<p>Ms. Mishoe reported that the new people for 2008 have been selected for the CoARC board. However, CoARC is still searching for an executive director.</p> <p>383 accredited programs plus 44 hold a letter of review. 39 are 100-level with 9 programs remain as stand-alone 100-level (down from 16 2006).</p>

2005 enrollments;8859 (16% increase from 04)  
2005 graduates;5796 (19% increase from 04)

#### AARC Elections

2007 elections were conducted via e-voting. There was 11% participation by eligible voters; this is slightly less than previous years. Plan for next year will be earlier notification to members of election.

#### Governmental Affairs

**HR 3968**- Will permit employment of RRT's with a bachelor's degree in physician practices under Medicare's Part B provision.

#### AARC President

Toni Rodriguez reviewed HR 3968 and stated that to get Congress to pass this legislation will take a lot of work on the part of the delegations.

Top 10 reasons for getting this legislation passed:

- (10) bragging rights for having gotten this accomplished
- (9) focuses us to work as one
- (8) you are known by the company you keep
- (7) patients stakeholder alliance
- (6) ability to collect data on the impact of respiratory care services on the efficacy of healthcare
- (5) gives us somewhere to grow as a profession
- (4) gets us recognized by the federal government
- (3) equips us to deal with job migration
- (2) patient reserves the right to respiratory care access in all care venues
- (1) we will affirm our destiny as patient advocates

#### NBRC

Dr. Theodore Oslick, President of the NBRC, introduced Sherry Barnhart, who is the incoming president of the NBRC.

NBRC credentialed the 100,000<sup>th</sup> RRT this year.

Job analysis meeting for examination for respiratory therapist performing sleep disorders testing and therapeutic intervention was conducted in 2007. Next step is the test development process.

CRT/RRT job analysis was conducted, will affect examinations administered in mid 2009 for CRT and early 2010 for RRT.

Annual State Licensure Liaison Group Meeting- ??

#### AARC MANAGEMENT & EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Bill Dubbs gave a report on education and management in the AARC.

Some of the topics he touched:

- CRCE changes for 2008, notification of the status of educational programs to members (earlier notification to section members)
- Human resources study set for 2008
- Benchmarking service – current and upcoming changes, subscription rates to the benchmarking service (6 month option)
- Professor's rounds
- 2008 live web cast program

#### Resolutions

#### RESOLUTIONS

**#04-07-23**

“Resolved that the House of Delegates (HOD) will receive the proposed AARC budget on the

first day of the HOD meeting in December. On the next day of the meeting the HOD will vote regarding the proposed budget.” (Presented by Alabama, and co-sponsored by Florida and Louisiana).

This resolution was amended to state: "Resolved that the House of Delegates (HOD) will receive the proposed AARC budget on the first day of the fall HOD meeting. On the next day of the meeting the HOD will vote regarding the proposed budget." MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED.  
AMENDED MOTION CARRIED.

**#94-07-24**

“Resolved that the AARC develop a list of suggested competencies and equipment that Respiratory Therapy departments may use as a guideline in order to prepare for Pandemic or Mass Casualty situations.” (Presented by Virginia). MOTION CARRIED.

**#94-07-25**

“Resolved that the AARC provide a discussion “blog” on the website for the purpose of posting relative and important information to submitted resolutions in advance of the HOD meetings.” (presented by Minnesota). MOTION CARRIED.

**PAST SPEAKER'S BOD UPDATE**

Denise Johnson gave an update on House resolution #04-07-23 – the Board referred this to the Audit Committee, with a report back to the Board at the March, 2008 meeting. Speaker Fox will give updated info at the July, 2008 HOD meeting.

#94-07-24 – referred to the AARC President and she will assign it to an ad hoc committee.

#94-07-25 – referred to the Executive Office to report to the Board at the March, 2008 meeting, and Debbie Fox will report to the HOD at the summer, 2008 meeting.

Ms. Johnson stated that the resolution regarding on-line voting for state elections through the AARC is still being investigated by the Executive Office. Information will be forthcoming.

**Bylaws**

No update

**Other**

**The Wisconsin Society donated \$1,000 to the ARCF.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS From WSRC Delegates:**

The WSRC support the 2008 International Fellowship Program. Including financial and host city support.

WSRC financially support the attendance of a guest for the July HOD meeting, could be a student.

2008 initiative to increase WSRC membership through increased sales of vouchers to new members.

**DELEGATE ROLE IN AARC BUDGET**

Mr. Salvatore stated that the Finance Committee has reviewed the AARC budget for 2008 and that his committee has communicated with the AARC auditors. He stated that the House of Delegates will remain a part of the budget process but the strategies will be reviewed and “stepped up”. T

Here will be a high level budget spreadsheet presented to the HOD, this will be able to be shared with state BOD’s. It was also reminded that each year the June AARC Times has the AARC annual budget available to all members.

***NOTE: Full reports available upon request***

