

AARC HOD November 2015 Tampa FL

The fall HOD meeting convened on November 5th and 6th 2015. An opening update on the Affiliate Military Liaison program was given and as of that date only 11 states had signed on with volunteers for the program. These states include Arkansas, Connecticut, Virginia, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Kentucky, Minnesota, and South Dakota. This project continues to evolve and grow. As of now affiliate liaisons will work to arrange Military/Veteran Color Guards at annual meetings for presenting and retiring of the flags and leading The Pledge of Allegiance. This project is being spearheaded by Joseph Buhain; he can be contacted at – joseph.buhain@saintpaul.edu.

Next up was a best practice presentation given by Kari Woodruff on Growing Leadership within your society. This presentation discussed quarterly leadership forums discussing leadership topics, panel discussions, info sharing, as well as a book club. Scott Reistad gave their group a leadership presentation, Kari Woodruff and Joyce Baker presented on student mentorship at their forums.

Tom Kallstrom gave an update on the current activities of the AARC. The AARC and NBRC now have a system in place for info sharing for CRCE's, all AARC credits on your personal transcript will automatically be uploaded to NBRC. This can be good recruitment tool for increasing membership inside affiliates. There is work going on for the State Medicaid initiative. Affiliates are being asked to reach out to local and state Medicaid providers. The AARC's goal is to include the payment of RT's service in COPD management, in hopes of reducing the number of COPD readmissions. Currently COPD costs \$32B annually and is projected to cost nearly \$49B by 2020, 25% of this cost to be paid by state Medicaid programs. The Thompson Bill (Telehealth Parity Act) was reintroduced July 7th. This bill includes language including RT's as professionals able to furnish Telehealth services. In March of 2015, the AARC launched a COPD educator program. The next COPD educator program is tentatively planned to be held in Chicago sometime in 2016. Through the AARC's partnership with the CDC will be holding 4 Ventilator Stockpile courses in 2016. The first course will be held at the Wisconsin / Minnesota annual meeting in April, next in California in June, Ohio in July, then finally at the Arkansas/Louisiana/Mississippi meeting in August. The CDC has also asked the for AARC's involvement in a national smoking campaign. This will include RT specific info placed on their website, a description of AARC smoking cessation activities and an opportunity to highlight RT's. The Life & Breath program is to be revised in 2016. The AARC was approached by the Leonard Nimoy family to act as advisors for the documentary on his life with COPD, with a preview held at the International Congress later in the week. Finally we were shown a video celebrating the life of Dr. Forrest Bird.

Tim Meyers updated us on AARC's business aspect and avenues. They are researching options to help bring up revenue as membership has remained flat or had a slight decline of the past several years. Membership is the main revenue source for the association other than the

annual meeting. He also updated us on the virtual museum that is now up and operational and includes approximately 50 short videos of why they became RT's.

The HOD went into a joint meeting with the AARC BOD discussing membership, PACT meeting April 11th with a Hill Day the following day April 12th. CMS is working on a reform to LTACH hospitals in regards to adding RT services as specialized rehab services. The proposal would allow MD's to delegate authority to qualified therapists to write rehab orders. The issue is currently, state laws do not allow RT's to perform this function. Also CMS is implementing changes to discharge planning impacting IRF's, CAH's, LTACH's, and HHA's. To date there were 5 separate Telehealth bills that DO NOT INCLUDE RT's.

Changes in the AARC: Sherry Milligan was recognized for her retirement after 35 years with the AARC. The AARC has also hired a grant writer and social media specialist. Future positions will include: business director and membership coordinator. The AARC is leasing some of their office space to a spa for increasing revenue. There is a MemberCentrix app for people who want to get AARConnect on the mobile devices.

TJC is citing hospitals if the person who checks off your staff on ABG competencies does not have a BS degree in either the biological sciences or respiratory therapy. Also this person cannot be a newly hired staff, but they must be in a supervisory role. This is from CLIA and TJC.

FACES Foundation was started by a family whose loved one died from lung disease. The PHIL award honors RTs by patient caregivers, hospital based. The recipient of the PHIL award is given a free registration to their state conference. More information can be found at www.thefacesfoundation.org.

Brian Cayko presented a best practice on how to achieve success during virtual lobby week.

Friday began with an update on AARC education courses. The pulmonary disease educator course is anticipated to go online in the near future. The ACCS course is now online along with other live webcasts and the AARC Universe. As of October, 7,282 CRCE's had been awarded!!! New this year is multiple PFT courses, smoking cessation, and a Neo/Peds congenital heart defects programs. 2016 will bring a new NPS credential course in late summer early fall as well as the SDS credential.

Elections were held for the HOD board with Kerry McNiven elected as secretary, Kurt Merrigan-treasurer, Keith Siegel- speaker elect, Bob DeLorme- Chair elect of AARC Bylaws committee, and Jim Lanoha AARC elections committee.

The deadline for students attending summer forum is May 15th.

CoARC gave an update on their activities including an update on the work being done to roll out the new mid-level practitioner – APRT's. In 2015 approved standards were sent to the AARC,

ATS, ASA, and ACCP for endorsement in early January. Earlier this year APRT standards were endorsed by the AARC. CoARC is currently developing an application and self-study/site visit with details to follow. They are anticipating accepting the first APRT applications by mid-2016.

Frank Salvatore discussed some of his main strategic goals for 2016 including membership, strengthening state affiliates, and patient advocacy.

New BOD members were inducted and gavel was passed, past presidents report was given and outgoing delegates were recognized.

Every delegate is required to stand on a HOD committee. Dave is a member of the orientation committee. Julie was co-chair of the scrutinizing committee and a member of the elections committee.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by:

Dave Hodgson/ Julie Dowling

I would like to thank the SDSRC members for trusting me to represent them the past 4 years. I have immensely enjoyed this opportunity; it is certainly one I will never forget. I have learned so much about the AARC on the national level. I have met some of the best RT's in the country and have formed great friendships. I highly recommend this experience. Thank you again for letting me serve as South Dakota's delegate for the past 4 years.
Julie Dowling