

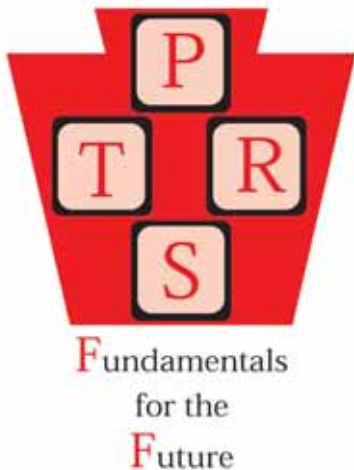


PTRS NEWSLETTER

FALL 2005

The newsletter of the Pennsylvania
Therapeutic Recreation Society
www.ptrs.org

2006 TRI UPDATE



**Therapeutic Recreation
Institute
June 6-9, 2006
Harrisburg/Hershey
Holiday Inn
Grantville**

The 2006 TRI committee is hard at work making preparations for your 2006 TRI to be held June 6-9, 2006 at the Harrisburg-Hershey Holiday Inn at Grantville, PA. Currently we are solidifying speakers and obtaining vendors/exhibitors for the conference.

We are excited about our keynote speaker, Mark Fenton, who has a wealth of knowledge to share with us. He has presented at national conferences, editor of *Walking Magazine* & hosts a PBS program on exercise & walking. Sounds like he is going to be a perfect fit into our recreation building block puzzle. We hope you will be motivated and surprised at the ideas and stories he will share with us.

Other presentation topics include, but are not limited to: documentation, F-tag regulations, Death and Dying, Spirituality and Grief Counseling, Native American Medicine Wheel, Domestic Violence, Managing the Disciplinary Process, Ethics and Professional Compliance, Coping with Change, and many more.

We still have space to include a few more so, if you have heard a dynamic presentation or you yourself are interested in presenting at the 2006 TRI please contact Wendy Jo Hartsock at whartsock@prps.org to obtain a proposal form.

If you have a vendor you use, or know of one you think would be interested in exposure to over 3000 recreation facilities across the state and beyond please send us their contact information. We are continually updating our vendor list and would like to know and include new ones.

The committee is excited about this years TRI schedule and hope that everyone will take advantage of the early registration price breaks and payment plan. If you haven't received your advanced registration please call the PRPS office to request one.

**Have you reviewed your 38th Annual
Therapeutic Recreation Institute
Advanced Registration???**

**Please do send in your form to get the
great price breaks before
February 15, 2006.**

**If you haven't received your brochure
call the PRPS office to request one
(814) 234 - 4272.**

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PTRS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello all & Seasons Greetings

I would like to take the time to extend a thank you to everyone in the society for your support and assistance in my first eight months of my tenure as President. I truly appreciate the great assistance from PRPS staff and Wendy Jo and Bob as liaisons to our society. These people truly need our gratitude for what they accomplish for our society.

I would also like to include a very big thank you to the Specialty Representative for providing an education on what they will provide the society during their appointment to the Board of Directors. We hope for the society as a whole to become more aware of the Board of Directors and what we can offer you as your elected officials and appointed officials.

The new board has met and approved the strategic plan for 2005-2009 and is very enthusiastic about moving ahead with the plan. I again need to take the time to thank Bianca Brdaric for her enthusiasm and dedication to her position on getting this newsletter and minutes out to everyone and keeping this President in check for articles.

The 38th Annual Therapeutic Recreation Institute Committee is very well on its way and are doing leaps and bounds to assure this years Fundamentals for the Future TRI is great. These individuals have given much of their time and efforts to assure that a quality educational program is put together.

I am confident that with your support, the Board of Directors will continue to increase the awareness of our Society, and we will be able to make great strides in improving and creating new and innovative changes to the services that we provide to you.

Again everyone have a safe and happy Holiday Season and can not await to see you at one of the many functions our society has to provide you.

Yours in Leadership Towards Health & Wellness



Frederick C. Walter CTRS
President PTRS

PTRS Mission Statement:

Unite Individuals associated with therapeutic recreation and interested consumers by providing opportunities for education and training that promote leadership and advocacy of the field, thereby enhancing the health and wellness of Pennsylvanians

OUR NEWSLETTER...

The PTRS Newsletter is a quarterly publication supported by the membership and interested individuals, it is as good as our membership allows. You can help by contributing to it. Tell us about a new program or an existing program that works, tell us what you have seen as trends, and let us know who's who in the recreation field and what their accomplishments and achievements are. We are always looking for human interest stories. Please send you contributions to Wendy Jo Hartsock at the PRPS office Whartsock@prps.org On a personal note I know that we have wonderful programs and staff in the field and so many times they feel unrecognized, unappreciated so this is your opportunity to submit them for recognition. It only takes a few minutes, yes I know your schedule is busy but please take the time to zip me an email. Let me know who and what is out there, what is going on a new idea that you want to share with your fellow professionals, something special that your facility does. Your input is important to me.

Wendy Jo Hartsock, CTRS

CALL FOR PAPERS/SPEAKERS:
**38th Annual Pennsylvania Therapeutic
Recreation Institute**
June 6-9, 2006
Harrisburg/Hershey Holiday Inn, Grantville

Proposal forms located at www.ptrs.org

Submission deadline **January 6, 2006**
(there still is time to get it in)

New Programming Award Announced

The PTRS Awards Committee is pleased to announce the creation of a new annual award, *Outstanding Special Event* recommended and the PTRS Board of Directors approved to split the current “Outstanding Programming Award” into two separate awards. The first award would remain the “Outstanding Programming Award”. The second would occur by creating a new “Outstanding Special Event Award”.

After reading through the nominations for Outstanding Programming over the last few years the committee recognized that the long-term programs were having a hard time competing against the often more elaborate single day events. So to help even out the competition and recognize *both* types of programs we have created this second award.

Outstanding Programming Award

This award may be presented annually to more than one agency demonstrating excellence in programming.

Award Qualifications:

1. The agency, its director, or staff member responsible for the program **must** be a member in good standing in the Society.
2. Either the sponsoring agency or staff member may submit the program. Programs must have been offered during the current PRPS nomination schedule (April 11, 2005 – April 10, 2006).
3. *The program must demonstrate a time continuance of at minimum 1 time per quarter per year or 4 times per year.*
4. Programs submitted should show evidence of meeting at least one of the following:
 - a. TR or Patient Activity program which has brought recognition to the field
 - b. TR or Patient Activity program which has demonstrated a unique and innovative service
 - c. TR or Patient Activity program which has benefited consumers in a unique way

Outstanding Special Event Award

This award may be presented annually to more than one agency demonstrating excellence in programming.

Award Qualifications:

1. The agency, its director or staff member responsible for the program **must** be a member in good standing in the Society.
2. The program may be submitted by either the sponsoring agency or staff member, and must have been offered during the current PRPS nomination schedule (April 11, 2005 – April 10, 2006).
3. The program must be a one time offered event during the above time frame.
4. Programs submitted should show evidence of meeting at least one of the following:
 - a. TR or Patient Activity program which has brought recognition to the field
 - b. TR or Patient Activity program which has demonstrated a unique and innovative service
 - c. TR or Patient Activity program which has benefited consumers in a unique way

For further information please refer to the website <http://www.ptrs.org/awards.htm>.

***Approved by vote by PTRS Board of Directors – August 2005*

FUN*TASTIC Recreation Programming

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (.6 CEU's)

Wednesday - December 7, 2005

Erie VA, 135 East 38th Street, Erie, PA 16504

This session will provide a wide range of programming ideas that include crafts, edible crafts, month by month and theme weeks, activities for men, intergenerational programming and special events. The participants will understand the process of knowing your individual participants likes and dislikes and how this can drive creative interventions and positive outcomes for them. Participants will also experience Aging Sensitivity (understanding sensory changes) and learn about helping and creating a heart of compassion for the elderly by experiencing hands-on activities.

Registration Fees:

Member \$73

Non-member \$93

**Successful Therapeutic Activities
for Persons with Dementia**

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (.6 CEU's)

Thursday - December 1, 2005

Seton Manor, 1000 Seton Drive, Orwigsburg, PA 17961

This workshop will begin with a brief overview of the approaches needed when interacting with a person who has Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. We will review the stages of Alzheimer's and how that impacts activities and therapeutic recreation programming. The workshop will review how to utilize task segmentation in creating successful, meaningful activities for all stages of Alzheimer's disease. "Best Practices" will be shared and discussed. **Bring a BEST PRACTICE ALONG TO SHARE.** This workshop will be a mixture of lecture, group participation and hands on experiences.

Registration Fees:

Member \$73

Non-member \$93

**Upcoming NCTRC Exam Date's
Application Deadlines for
Certification Exam**

October 1, 2005 for January 3-7, 2006
February 1, 2006 for May 1-5, 2006

The National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification ® (NCTRC ®) was founded as a non-profit organization in 1981. Today, it has over 16,000 actively Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists™ (CTRS ®) professionals. NCTRC is the national credentialing organization for therapeutic recreation and recreation therapy.

NCTRC establishes evaluative standards for the certification and recertification of professionals; grants certification to individuals who voluntarily apply and meet established criteria, and monitors adherence to these standards by certified therapeutic recreation professionals.

The Mission of NCTRC is to protect the consumer of therapeutic recreation services by promoting the provision of quality therapeutic recreation services by NCTRC certificants.

Did you Know...

There are currently 759 CTRS's in the state of Pennsylvania, according to 2005 statistics. Pennsylvania is ranked 3rd highest number of CTRS, to New York 1st, California 2nd, North Carolina and Michigan running a close 4th and 5th. We should take pride in the number of certified professionals we have in the state.

Greetings from your new Behavioral Health Specialty Representative, Geoff Geesey

I was appointed by our Society President, Fred Walter and formerly added to the PTRS Board during the June meeting at our TRI in Grantville. I've been involved in PRPS since 1979 and will continue to serve the Society as this Specialty Rep and organizer of the TRI Memorial Golf Tournament. I look forward to networking with members who work in Psych, Corrections, MH/MR, Drug and Alcohol and other behavioral health populations.

During the last board meeting several issues stood out as challenges to our profession. First of all there has been a declining number of CTRS registrants. We are not sure if the demand has gone down or if there is a slow exodus of CTRSs leaving the profession. It's possible that reimbursement (the 2nd issue) may be contributing to this situation. The monies collected for services rendered has come under closer scrutiny each year as administrators strive to conserve fiscal resources or possibly downsize operations and/or staff. These and other issues will tax our personal and professional resources.

I mentioned the TRI Memorial Golf Tournament earlier and the PTRS Board has now authorized use of the money donated to become available for research and studies. This will provide new opportunities for people seeking funds for various projects. The board will continue to review and the establish guidelines for usage. If you have any questions or comments please contact me.

Geoff Geesey, CTRS

Speciality Representative for Rehab

Hello Everyone. My name is BJ Crownover and I am currently the Rehabilitation Speciality Rep for PTRS. I have been in the field of Rehab since 1983 and continue to be amazed at how fast healthcare changes! But as your Rehab Rep, I will try to keep up with the changes so I can assist you with any questions you might have. I am also anxious to hear from you, so if you hear of anything that I should be aware of, feel free to contact me.

Happy Winter!

BJ Crownover, CTRS/CPRP

Hello, from your Long Term Care Representative, Allyson Finkle

I was appointed by our Society President, Fred Walter and had the privilege of attending my first Board Meeting at the 2005 TRI in Grantville. I have been a member of PTRS since 1994 and have served on several TRI conference committees and the awards committee. I have been in Long Term Care for twelve years and have worked in a variety of capacities. Currently I, am employed as the Director of Therapeutic Recreation, at a 125 bed Skilled Nursing facility. I look forward to networking and working with other individuals in the LTC field.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for continuing education topics please contact me.

Allyson Finkle, CTRS

Sneak Preview of what is coming Spring of 2006 to the
PTRS Workshop Series

Aromatherapy: It's use in Therapeutic
Recreation Programming

The Therapeutic Benefit of Scrapbooking

Coming to a location near you: State College,
Lancaster, Philadelphia, Erie, Pittsburgh





PTRS CLOTHING MERCHANDISE

All of the clothing items are embroidered with the PTRS logo

(ADULT CLOTHING)

Golf Shirt Bright Royal	\$24.00 (2XL-3XL \$26.00)
Golf Shirt White	\$24.00 (2XL-3XL \$26.00)
Golf Shirt Long Sleeve Storm Blue	\$26.00 (2XL-3XL \$28.00)
Golf Shirt Long Sleeve White	\$26.00 (2XL-3XL \$28.00)
Oxford Shirt Light Blue	\$30.00 (3XL-4XL \$32.00)
Oxford Shirt White	\$30.00 (3XL-4XL \$32.00)
Denim Shirt Indigo	\$28.00 (2XL-3XL \$30.00)
Denim Shirt White	\$28.00 (2XL-3XL \$30.00)
Fleece Navy	\$38.00 (2XL-4XL \$40.00)
Hooded Sweatshirt Ash	\$25.00 (2XL-3XL \$27.00)
Hooded Sweatshirt Blue	\$25.00 (2XL-3XL \$27.00)
Hooded Sweatshirt White	\$25.00 (2XL-3XL \$27.00)
T-Shirt Short Sleeve Ash	\$12.00 (2XL-4XL \$14.00)
T-Shirt Short Sleeve White	\$12.00 (2XL-4XL \$14.00)
T-Shirt Short Sleeve Indigo	\$12.00 (2XL-4XL \$14.00)
T-Shirt Long Sleeve Ash	\$16.00 (2XL-5XL \$18.00)
T-Shirt Long Sleeve White	\$16.00 (2XL-5XL \$18.00)
T-Shirt Long Sleeve Indigo	\$16.00 (2XL-5XL \$18.00)

(YOUTH CLOTHING)

T-Shirt Short Sleeve Ash	\$12.00 (S-XL)
T-Shirt Short Sleeve White	\$12.00 (S-XL)
T-Shirt Short Sleeve Indigo	\$12.00 (S-XL)
T-Shirt Long Sleeve Ash	\$16.00 (S-XL)
T-Shirt Long Sleeve White	\$16.00 (S-XL)
T-Shirt Long Sleeve Indigo	\$16.00 (S-XL)

(NON CLOTHING ITEMS)

PTRS Can Koozie	\$2.00
PTRS Name Badge Pin	\$3.00
PTRS Lunch Kool Pack Cooler	\$4.00
PTRS Swiss Pocket knife	\$4.00
PTRS Desk Calculator	\$4.00
PTRS Coffee Mug Beehive style	\$6.00

(Non clothing items either have PTRS logo on or PTRS written label)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Check # _____

Credit Card: Visa MC AMEX Discover

CC number _____

Exp. date _____

Please add 10% of order amount for shipping & handling. Check out the website to look at the merchandise pictures!!!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Michelle Ward

You may remember seeing Michelle in June at the TRI, 2005, she was the one with the big belly and was expecting at any time, or so we thought. We are so happy she held off the delivery of her beautiful daughter Daysha until July 22, 2005 who came into this world at 7lbs 9 ½ oz., happy and healthy.

Michelle and her husband Derrick also have a son, Derris who now has an important role as a big brother and protecting Daysha from all the future boyfriends. Michelle enjoyed her 10 week maternity leave but was also anxious to get back to her professional role as one of 2 Recreation Therapist at Belmont Residence at Germantown.

When asking Michelle how and why she chose the field of Therapeutic Recreation, Michelle recalls when she worked as a recreation aide with children who had Cerebral Palsy, she remembers enjoying it and admits that she didn't fully understand why she was doing some of the things she was doing with the children but after she attended Temple University, where she graduated from in 2004, she understood the connection of recreation and therapy and how everything just seemed to fit together for a perfect match.

We asked Michelle how she became a member of PTRS and she stated that while in school they were exposed to different organizations and last spring she received information about one of the workshops PTRS was holding and felt to increase her knowledge base about the field she would attend. After looking at the workshop cost and the membership cost it didn't take her long to realize that the benefit of becoming a member not only for the discount rates but mostly for the ability to be exposed to professionals in the field and the professional knowledge she could obtain there was now question whether or not to be a member of a wonderful professional organization such as PTRS.

Michelle stated that she enjoyed the TRI so much and made many new contacts that she is looking forward to attending the 2006 TRI in Grantville, and many more to come. Michelle, we welcome you as a new member and are very happy you decided to join our Team!

PA Recreation & Park Society
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A Call for PTRS Leadership

Kirk S. Rakos, CTRS, Past President PTRS

Nomination Chair

As the PTRS nominations chair I am currently developing a list of members who are interested in growing both individually and professionally by serving on the PTRS Board of Directors.

The Pennsylvania Therapeutic Recreation Society Board of Directors is comprised of eleven professionals in the field of Therapeutic Recreation or Therapeutic Activities. Board members serve a two year term which include four meetings annually.

The open positions for the term of 2006 – 2008 are as follows:

District I Representative – Representative will cover the northwest and southwest regions (see PTRS Website for specific counties). Essential functions include being a first contact for members in your district, being a liaison to PRPS

District I, working with TR training/education specialist to offer continuing education in the district, network with universities and colleges, monitoring and sharing the trends and issues of the profession.

Qualifications

Current member in good standing of PRPS and branch affiliation with PTRS

Employed or retired from the field of Therapeutic Recreation or Therapeutic Activities

Minimum of two years of experience in Therapeutic Recreation or Therapeutic Activities

Current Certification by NCTRC or NCCAP

Member at Large – (2 positions)

Individual will represent non-aligned points of view, serve on PTRS or PRPS committees as appointed by the president, network and market PTRS.

Qualifications

Current member in good standing of PRPS and branch affiliation with PTRS

Employed or retired from the field of Therapeutic Recreation or Therapeutic Activities

Current Certification by NCTRC or NCCAP

If you are interested in promoting the field of Therapeutic Recreation or someone you know may be an excellent candidate and is a member of PTRS please contact Kirk Rakos, CTRS (717) 367-1121 x33191 or e-mail krakos@masonicvillagespa.org by December 16, 2005