



South Carolina Activity Professionals Association

SCAPA NEWS

April 2008

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**NAAP
Conference 2011
to be held in SC!
Watch for details**



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT Rita Dixon, ADC

I am very excited to be your new SCAPA President. I would like to thank Debbie Bouknight for all the great things she has done for SCAPA and for her wisdom and guidance in my career. I would also like to thank Amy Jackson and Joyce Chapman for their guidance and assistance in helping me understand what was required in order to qualify for my ADC through NCCAP. SCAPA has been special and beneficial to me for so many reasons; networking and education are necessities in our ever-changing profession and SCAPA has afforded both in more ways than I can count. It has provided insight on what DHEC surveyors are looking for on their visits to facilities and it has provided lasting friendships and support.

Thank you to the Central District and Amy Jackson for the wonderful education opportunities offered at the 2008 Conference in Columbia! I enjoyed every session attended and took back so many ideas to use at my facility. I encourage all members to volunteer their time and talents when the conference is hosted by your district. A lot of time and effort goes into the planning and implementation of each conference and until you have served on a conference committee, you will never realize the magnitude of work required.

To give a little background on myself, I have been an activity professional for 5 ½ years. My career began at a CCRC where I worked as Activities Coordinator for Assisted Living and Special Care. Six months ago, I accepted a new position at the new Greenwood Regional Rehabilitation Hospital. I currently serve as the Activities/Staffing Coordinator there. I am responsible for all aspects of activities for the 12 bed Transitional Rehabilitation Unit, a short-term care unit, and the scheduling, attendance and payroll for the Nursing and Therapy staffs. In the future, it is our goal to extend activities to include the 34 hospital rehab beds as well. In SCAPA, I have served on the Piedmont Conference Committee, as a session monitor for conferences and as the Publications Chair.

I encourage you all to attend your District Workshops and the One-day Workshops and to seek certification through NCCAP. If you need help reviewing the NCCAP requirements, please contact myself or Debbie Bouknight. We will be glad to assist you with the process. Please note— taking the MEPAP Courses **DOES NOT CERTIFY YOU AS AN ACTIVITY DIRECTOR.**

Please send any DHEC Survey results to me. These will be published, anonymously, in the newsletters. Include all tags, not just the activity tags. We will continue to publish these in the newsletters in order to help all SCAPA members improve the care that their facilities provide to their residents and patients. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. Thank you for your support of SCAPA. Hope to see you all at the One Day Workshop on July 11, 2008 in Columbia!!

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Important SCAPA Policies

Please read and be aware of these SCAPA policies. We have stated them in past newsletters and on conference brochures, but people continue to be surprised they exist. It is up to us as members to be responsible for reading and applying these policies.

SCAPA Late fee policy: For each workshop and conference, there is an early registration deadline. **Anyone** sending in a registration form after this deadline, must pay the late fee. There will be no exceptions to this policy. We have deadlines we must meet with hotels and hosting sites, handouts that must be prepared, registration packets to prepare, etc. It is not fair for those volunteering for these jobs to have to wait until the last minute to get it done. It also costs SCAPA money if we don't have accurate meal numbers for functions. Brochures are sent out in plenty of time for members to request approval and payment. **PLEASE DO NOT WAIT** until the last minute to do this or it may cost you more. Once you send your registration, you will immediately receive a confirmation letter or postcard. If you **HAVE NOT RECEIVED** one, after a reasonable amount of time, you need to check with the Professional Development Chair to make sure she received it. You **are not registered** until she receives the form and payment and sends confirmation. **ALSO**, please make sure your company sends payment to the address on the form, and not an old address they have in their computer. **SCAPA is not responsible if they send to the wrong address and it results in a late fee.**

SCAPA educational session attendance policy: NCCAP and LTHCA require that persons attend an entire session in order to receive credit. Anyone who arrives at a session more than 5 minutes after its start time, unless they have a pass from another session monitor, will not receive credit for that class. Session monitors will ask for their certificate and write "no credit" across the lines for that session's time frame. The member may still attend the session, but will not receive credit for that particular one. Breaks are normally for 30 minutes, which should allow everyone time to get to their sessions before they start.

SCAPA Refund policy: Refunds for conferences and workshops will be given in case of illness of the member or their family, death in the family, or surveyors in the member's facility at the time of the event. Refund requests must come to the Board in writing and **MUST** be made within 30 days of the close of the conference/workshop. No refunds will be issued after the 30 day time frame. Workshop/conference fees also will not be applied to a future workshop/conference, should someone not be able to attend. If the above stated criteria are met, then the member needs to request a refund within 30 days, or forfeit their registration fee. Members are kindly asked to inform the Professional Development Chair as soon as they know they will not be able to attend, in case there is time to correct meal totals.

SOUTH CAROLINA SPIRIT OF CARING

By Debbie Bouknight, BS, ACC

It's that time of the year! *Time to start thinking about the Spirit of Caring program.* This program was initiated by DHEC 11 years ago to recognize skilled care homes for their programs and services that improve the quality of life or quality of care for the residents they serve. It is my goal that **EVERY** skilled care unit/facility of a SCAPA member participates this year. You can participate in either or both of the poster contest (winning poster becomes the cover of the presentation manual) or by submitting a best practice program from your home/community. Private pay communities, or Medicaid and Medicare facilities may participate, but it must be a program in your skilled care unit/home.

This year, there is an emphasis on the clinical aspects within the home and not just activity ideas. Please encourage your homes/units to come up with a program or submit a program/service already in use and working well for you. Let's share those ideas! If two departments can combine to create a new program or service, we welcome those new ideas! One of the best parts of the program is the Best Practice presentation manual. All of the ideas submitted are bound into the manual and given to all attendees at the annual banquet. This is a wonderful source of new ideas for everyone!

The theme for 2008 is:

New Directions, Team Connections

Again, we are emphasizing a "TEAM" effort within the home when submitting ideas.

The poster contest is underway and those are due to DHEC by March 31. If you did not pick up a flier at conference, or did not receive one from DHEC, please let me know and I will mail/fax you a copy of the requirements.

Debbie Bouknight

Dbouknight2@sc.rr.com

CULTURAL ARTS CONTEST REPORT

By Lovisa Mathews, Cultural Arts Chair

Hello SCAPA members!! I am excited about becoming the new Cultural Arts Chair for this organization. I have been a member of SCAPA for 3 years and have been in activities for 4 years. I am currently employed as the Activity Director at Lexington Gardens Assisted Living Community in West Columbia.

I look forward to seeing just how much your residents have to offer by way of you all getting them involved in submitting various type projects for judging throughout the year! Your residents work hard and they deserve to be recognized for their projects, and needless to say...it lifts their spirits tremendously.

There were three 1st place winners at this year's conference in Columbia:

Lexington Extended Care
Brian Center of Columbia
Bishop Gadsden

If you would like to ask any questions about cultural arts please contact me by email at SCAPACULTURALARTS@Yahoo.com.

DHEC SURVEY RESULTS

Compiled by: Debbie Bouknight, BS, ACC

We can all learn from each other. Please be willing to share the results of your DHEC survey with us. We DO NOT say where the results come from, even though it is public knowledge. Even if the citations are in another department, let us know that as well. We all work as a team at our homes/communities, and can share with other department managers.

F-TAG 248 – facility cited for not meeting the activity needs of the residents—Surveyor’s reasons:

A resident with dementia was taken by a nursing asst. to the group meeting and said damaging things about activities program. (Debbie’s advice, make sure you have a clear understanding ahead of time, who is responsible for selecting and escorting residents to the group meeting. Residents need to be interviewable – that does not just mean they can talk, it means they can give accurate and reliable information. They should be oriented and not have personal agendas. If you document well in their charts, you can explain why they are/ are not, interviewable. They should also be able to hear and speak fairly well).

A nurse interviewed stated that she does not document nor have anything to do with providing activities (the new guidelines clearly state ALL DISCIPLINES are responsible for meeting the activity needs of the residents and that nurses will be interviewed as to how they assist). Even though we conduct in-services for the nursing staff, we cannot control what they say or do. This can actually be a good citation as it will force your Administrator and DON to involve nursing. Unfortunately, it is an activities and not a nursing tag, so makes YOU look bad.

A resident’s care plan stated that an activity calendar would be in their room. When the surveyor checked, there was no calendar. (Debbie’s advice: Yes, this was petty, but do not put **anything** on the care plan you cannot do or cannot control. The calendar can be taken down at any time over the course of the month, by the resident, family, etc. It is best not to put that as an approach on the care plan. Calendars also are not required in resident rooms. We do put them up at our home, or give them to those who like to keep them on their person or in their dresser drawers, but it is a courtesy on our part, not a requirement. The only requirement is that ONE calendar be displayed in the building).

A resident’s admission assessment stated that he did not like animal related activities. At the time of the survey, the resident was sitting in the hall and asked by AD if he would like to attend the program, which was animal related. The surveyor questioned the appropriateness of asking him to attend. (Debbie’s advice: **Yes, it was appropriate to ask.** Just because he was not interested at the time of assessment, does not mean his interests could not have changed. Also, by asking him, she was giving him **the choice** to attend or not. If she had forced him to attend, then yes, that would have been inappropriate, but to just invite him was not. I would also tell the surveyor that the assessment was just what it said, an admission assessment. We all know our residents change after they are admitted and become more adjusted to the home. Many won’t participate in anything when they arrive. The progress notes are an assessment of where the resident is every three months.) **This should not have been part of the citation and if any such thing happens to anyone else, you need to stand up for yourself and fight this one. We are supposed to be giving residents choices and this very reason for citation was totally against that.**

F-TAG 249 – even though the **AD IS qualified and a certified ADC**, the facility was cited under this tag because: the surveyor felt AD did not supervise the unit properly (in the past, facilities were cited for Tag 249 only if they did not have a “qualified” AD on staff, meaning the person was either not certified, or did not have 2 years activity experience, or had not taken the MEPAP course. This is what the TAG says, qualified or unqualified, not “doesn’t supervise properly”. This is unfortunate, because it implies there is no qualified AD on staff, when in fact there is.

Because bottom line, they felt the residents’ needs weren’t being met, it’s my personal opinion this should be cited under 248. There is a big difference in saying someone did not supervise properly and meet the residents needs, and in saying they are not qualified. The facility was not cited for unqualified nurses when they weren’t perceived to be doing their job

properly. I would also fight this one. There are truly “unqualified” staff running departments, who are not being cited. For the surveyors to cite someone who met not just 1, but 3 of the 5 possible ways to be qualified under F-Tag 249, is not right in my opinion).

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DHEC SURVEY RESULTS—Continued

Compiled by: Debbie Bouknight, BS, ACC

Please remember, surveyors are not perfect, and the surveyors who survey activities have no formal training, education, nor experience in activities. **YOU** are the expert in activities. If you do not agree with the surveyor, please stand up for yourself. There are procedures in place to disagree with a citation (unfortunately, you are fighting it to the very people who issued it, there is no independent party to review it, but do it anyway) and there is always the Federal Government if you still are not satisfied. Another AD reported that the surveyor did ask to see 1:1 records and was looking hard at voting procedures. Residents at her facility had declined to vote in the primary, but surveyor questioned that. She also asked where their voter registration cards were kept.

Surveyor wanted to know how facility locates and documents missing clothing. She wanted to see the form and process.

Other Tags reported to me that were cited in other departments:

- F-164 – Privacy & confidentiality – LPN did not close blinds on outside window of room before Foley catheter care
- F- 167 – Examination of survey results – did not have most recent survey posted (family member had removed it to read a few days earlier and did not return it)
- F- 253 – Housekeeping and Maintenance – rust found in two spots on 1 toilet seat, brown water stain on ceiling of resident bathroom, bent window blinds in two places
- F – 272 – Comprehensive Assessments – MDS was not completed in timely manner for private pay resident occupying Medicare bed
- F – 279 – Comprehensive care plans – no hospice care plan on resident receiving hospice care
- F-280 – Comprehensive care plans – care plan did not address resident’s smoking habit (which she gave up before coming to home, but was discovered smoking in bathroom by SW)
- F-281 – Comprehensive care plan – nurse did not document resident’s continued low pulse level or notify physician – therefore facility failed to ensure nurse was meeting Nurse Practice Act for SC
- F- 287 – Automated data processing – failure to transmit MDS for one private pay resident occupying Medicare bed
- F- 314 – Pressure Sores – failure of nurse to wash hands after having removed un-sterile gloves and having put on sterile gloves during pressure sore treatment
- F- 322 – Naso-gastric tubes – failure of nurse to wash hands between glove changes during gastro tube flushes
- F- 323 – Accidents and supervision – discovery of resident smoking in her bathroom, (despite resident being offered patch and asked if she wanted to go to designated smoking areas)
- F- 502 – Laboratory services – physician had ordered CBC which was not obtained
- F-214 – Clinical records – conflicting medication order – MAR different from one physician order

FREE MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION

If you do not already subscribe to Nursing Home Magazine, soon to be Long-Term Living Magazine, it is a **FREE** publication. NAAP President, Diane Mockbee had a great article in the January '08 issue on activities. Each month, a NAAP member will have a contributing article in there. You can subscribe at ARG1, P.O. Box 413050, Naples, FL, 34101-3050. I can also fax you a copy of a subscription form, call me at 803-996-6260 or email me at dbouknight2@sc.rr.com

DISTRICT REPORTS

CENTRAL DISTRICT

By Carol Frye, ADC

Hello Central District!

WHAT AN AWESOME CONFERENCE! Central District you all deserve a big round of applause for all the hard work and participation at this year's conference.

First, let me welcome all new SCAPA members of the Central District. It was so good to see so many at Conference. We invite you all to jump in and become activity in our district. If you have ideas for District workshops or subjects that you would like to see us present please let me know. I am open to suggestions. I am beginning to get things together for our spring workshop, so watch for flyers giving you the date time and place. We all ways get pre-approval NCCAP hours for our workshops, which helps get those needed CEUs. We have a great time when we hold our district meetings – we hold our business meeting while we have lunch and network together and then have our educational part of the program. We always try to hold our meetings on Friday and will get you finished in time to get back home before the bad traffic begins.

If at any time I can help you in any way, please just e-mail me or give me a call. If I am not in my office I promise I will call you back. My e-mail is cfrye@preshomesc.org and my phone number is (803) 796-8700.

Thanks to each of you for enhancing your resident's lives.

COASTAL DISTRICT

By Lorre Baird, ADC

2009 CONFERENCE HOST DISTRICT

What a GREAT Conference this year! Many thanks to Central District for being wonderful hosts! Activities truly was KING of the Jungle! I know much sweat and tears went into making this year's conference a great success! Many thanks also to the hard work that went into securing our wonderful speakers and presenters! Those of you who were not able to attend really missed a fantastic learning experience.

Coastal is well underway in planning our 2009 conference in sunny Myrtle Beach. Our first official business meeting is being held March 4, 2008 at Methodist Manor in Florence. We look forward to being your host as "Activities Goes Hollywood." This will be the 20th annual SCAPA conference and we hope one that will be long remembered.

Make plans now to attend and be treated like the stars activity professionals are! More details to follow! Remember Coastal members – we need ALL of us helping out to make this conference a success!

Our spring workshop is planned for Friday, June 6, 2008. Our presenter will be Alice Truluck and she'll be telling us all about the big culture change in long term care and how we as activity professionals can join in. More information will be coming to you soon on where our workshop will be held.



LOWER DISTRICT**By Trisha Campbell, ADC**

Hello fellow SCAPA members!! I am excited to have accepted the position as the Lower District Representative. I live and work on beautiful Hilton Head Island and am the Lifestyle Coordinator for Broad Creek Care Center, a classic residence by Hyatt. My responsibilities are primarily for the programming of our assisted living and skilled nursing residents. I am looking forward to increasing the membership of the lower district. My first objective will be to encourage the other activity professionals within Beaufort County to join SCAPA. We will be having our spring workshops on Hilton Head and our fall workshops in the Charleston area. I'm looking forward to a great year working with all of you within such a great organization such as SCAPA!!!

PIEDMONT DISTRICT**By Rita Stanley, CRCFA****2008 DISTRICT OF THE YEAR**

Hello Piedmont District! My name is Rita Stanley and it is my honor to serve as your district representative. I have been the Activities Director at Shepherd's Care Assisted Living for over 5 years. The 13 years prior I have worked in various capacities for Greenville County Disabilities and Special Needs Board including recreation planning for adults with mental and physical disabilities. I love this field!! In what other profession can you play games, go out to eat, wear your pajamas and touch other human beings with love? We are lucky to do what we do and our facilities are lucky to have us. In the next two years, my goals are to increase membership, provide training relevant to our specific needs and to share new ideas to help us continue to enhance our seniors lives. Our next workshop will be held at Shepherd's Care Center in Greenville, on June 6th at 10:00 a.m., the phone number is 864-322-6212-lunch will be provided; the topics have not been nailed down as of yet, but hopefully will meet a need and be entertaining at the same time. Should anyone ever need to contact me you can reach me at Shepherd's Care or on my cell phone at 864-270-0581. I am also hoping I will have some volunteers from our district to host future workshops and offer their expertise; should anyone have any new ideas or new activities to share, please give me a call or email me at rstanley@shepherdscenter.com. I am looking forward to getting to know each of you!! Have a great Spring and remember to use all those wonderful ideas we got at conference!

DISTRICT COORDINATOR REPORT**By Anne Abel, BA, ADC, CRCFA First Vice President**

District Coordinator Report

A special congratulations to Vanda Wade and the Piedmont District for winning the district of the year—great job to a great district!!

Two of the four districts have new leadership:

Piedmont District – Rita Stanley

Lower District – Trisha Campbell

The other two districts continue to be led by Carole Frye (Central) and Lorre Baird (Coastal). We will be having spring workshops in all four districts, so be sure to get involved in your area for CEU's, networking and fun!!

A hearty thank you goes out to Vanda Wade and Melinda Bowers for their leadership in Piedmont and Lower Districts, respectively. Although they are both "retiring," we appreciate their service to SCAPA.

NAAP REPORT

By Debbie Bouknight, BS, ACC—State Contact

I am so excited to report that we gained **20 new members** at the conference!! Thanks so much to Fran Erickson and Joyce Chapman for working the NAAP booth and promoting NAAP!! I think we also have more going to the NAAP conference from SC and that is awesome! You will love their conference. I think ours is the best state conference around, but we cannot give you what National can. Take this opportunity while it is fairly close, and attend. Also, PLEASE let me know if you are attending. We all sit together for the opening session and state roll call.

We also must begin work on the 2011 conference. Our main focus at this time will be fundraising. If anyone has skills in that area or any ideas, please let me know. We need great items, cruises, trips, etc., to raffle.

If you did not join at conference, it is never too late to join NAAP. They are **YOUR VOICE** in Washington. If you expect continued progress in our field, they are the ones to get it done. They are also being seen more and more, as evidenced by the NAAP articles in the Nursing Home Magazine. They continue to attend major conferences as a vendor, to get the name and the activity profession out on the forefront, but they also need your support. Save those pennies and join!! We also need you working with us for the conference.—be a part of this historic occasion!

PUBLICATION REPORT

By Christina Bonnett, Publications Chair

Greetings from Greenwood! I am very excited about becoming the Publications Chair—I just hope you don't find too many mistakes because this was a little more difficult than I had originally thought it would be!! For those of you who don't know me, I have been a member of SCAPA for 4 years, a member of NAAP for 3 years, an activity professional for 7 years, in the LTC field (in some capacity) for 15 years and I currently serve as Wesley Commons Continuing Care Retirement Community's Activity Director for the Health Care Center. Your articles are extremely crucial to the success of this publication, so please email them to me as soon as you possibly can—even if it's early—I will file them and use them as needed! My email address and phone number are in this newsletter, however, here they are again cbonnett@wesleycommons.org or (864) 227-7273; you only have until May 13th to submit for the July edition—so start NOW!! And thanks for all of your hard work, in addition to your submissions, they are great!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

By Amy Jackson, BS, ADC Professional Development Chair

Wow! What a conference! I am so glad we only do it once a year! Let me update you on a few numbers. The official count for people registered was 150, a record attendance for a SCAPA conference. The previous record was 116 from the 2007 conference. (I misinformed you all by saying 126.) I hope everyone enjoyed the conference and that you received a wealth of knowledge.

The next workshop will be our One Day workshop. It will be on Friday, July 11, back at the Radisson Hotel in Columbia. We have a few hotel rooms blocked off for SCAPA, so if you plan on spending the night, please call the Radisson ASAP. Make your reservation and let them know you are with the SCAPA block. Please keep an eye out for the brochure for the one day workshop as it will be going out the middle of April.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call me at home 864-895-4179 or email me!

NCCAP NEWS

By Debbie Bouknight, BS, ACC
NCCAP State Representative

Are you certified?? If not, we can help you. Go to www.nccap.org for more information on how to become certified. I am also here to answer any questions or help you through the process. As soon as you get your certification, please let me know so you can be properly recognized for your achievement in this newsletter—YOU DESERVE IT!!!!

Congratulations to the following who were recently certified ADPC:

Donna Chapman
Sandra Graham

NCCAP is the only body that nationally certifies Activity Professionals who work with the elderly. There is no State certification. This state recognizes the national certification and the national MEPAP course only.

As a reminder, if you are seeking ADC or ACC certification, you must take both MEPAP 1 and MEPAP 2 courses, no matter what your educational background is. It can be taken by home study if you do not live close to a SC instructor. You can find more information about instructors on the NCCAP website under the course instructors listing on the home page. You can also apply for ADPC (provisional certification) if you meet 3 of the 5 criteria in track 4. You will then have 6 years to complete the other requirements and apply for ADC certification.

Found:

A pair of Foster Grant reading glasses were left at the Radisson. Contact Debbie Bouknight if you lost a pair.

AWARDS and HISTORIAN REPORT

By Amy Laughlin, ADC Awards Chair and Historian

Wow, what a wonderful conference! I hope all of you who attended were able to take home many new ideas and helpful suggestions and you returned to your jobs with renewed passion and energy. I always come home from the conference emotionally and physically pumped up and with my brain bursting with plans to improve the programs my department offers.

I was thrilled to be able to present the annual SCAPA awards at the 2008 Awards Banquet. It was a joy and an honor to read the nominations as they came in – I was personally moved to tears more than once over the stories told and the lives changed by some of SCAPA's members and supporters. Thank you to all of you who nominated a friend, co-worker or supervisor for an award and I am sorry that everyone was not able to win. Please nominate them again next year! Below are the 2008 award winners:

Volunteer of the Year – Susan Howell (LMC Extended Care)

Administrator of the Year – Cindy Matthews (Peachtree Center)

District of the Year - Piedmont

Activity Assistant of the Year – Dee Cote, ADC (Atria Forest Lake)

Distinguished Merit – Sanford Chapman

Distinguished Service – Amy Jackson, ADC

Activity Professional of the Year – Cynthia Marterre, ADC (Bishop Gadsden)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Linda Spencer, ADC, Corresponding Secretary

I am so excited about membership—we have so many new members!! I am very proud of our districts, hopefully SCAPA continues to grow in the years to come. I am new to this position, so please bear with me. Currently, our membership is 275 and it breaks down as the following: Central=91 Coastal=42 Lower=51 Piedmont=79

At large=12

As always, thank you to everyone for your support and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to call or email me. I hope all of you have a wonderful spring and hope to see you at our One Day Workshop this summer!!

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPORT

By Anne Abel, BA, ADC, CRCFA First Vice President

There is some concern about bill H.R. 4248 currently in Congressional committee that may negatively impact our profession, specifically the hiring and retaining of Activity Directors. Please read the following excerpt of a letter written by Cindy Bradshaw of NCCAP:

"NCCAP while not directly opposed to the intent of H.R. Bill 4248, are concerned with the exclusiveness of the terminology r/t who is qualified to lead the activity programs in especially the SNF facilities, as activities are reimbursable as long as the program is lead by the terms of F249, which as stated above includes NCCAP. If the bill is passed as stated, many administrators in the SNF's facilities could mistakenly believe that they must employ a recreation therapist to lead their programs which is not the case. If recreation is ordered by a physician, then it would indeed be conducted by a recreation therapist, much like if Physical Therapy was ordered by a physician it would be conducted by a physical therapist. Activity programs offered in geriatric facilities are therapeutic by nature in that they meet their meaningful quality of life in areas of mental, psychosocial, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being's.

NCCAP much like NCTRC has over 6,000 national credentialed individuals (while NCTRC may have a larger number of certified, a good portion of their certified work in mental health or child development, not with the geriatric population). Both organizations are recognized nationally as being considered "qualified to lead activity programs," an NCCAP certified activity program is reimbursed by the daily per patient per day (ppd) rate, and does not require an additional physician order, yet meets the resident's meaningful quality of life.

NCCAP would ask that you do NOT support the bill as worded, in that it is perceived exclusive in nature and could mistakenly be an assumed mandate that facilities discharge their qualified NCCAP certified activity professionals, only to replace them with a recreation therapist that probably has not been physician ordered."

WAYS AND MEANS REPORT

By Teresa Jowers, Ways and Means Chair

Hello everyone!! I hope that all that were at conference enjoyed themselves and went home with valuable information to share and implement—I know I did! The Ways and Means table did very well during conference with the new tote bags, towels and the 50/50 raffle. The total of items sold was \$233.00; the 50/50 raffle brought in a profit of \$43.50. It was a fun time had by all and we look forward to the next conference! But before then, we will be having one day workshops and district workshops as we continue our education to heighten our activity programming. So please, when attending these sessions, check out the Ways and Means items, you never know when something new may be added to the table! Also, if anyone has any ideas of what they might want to see on the Ways and Means table, please let me know. Thank you, everyone, for all that you do—I look forward to seeing you real soon!

CONFERENCE CONCERNS

By Debbie Bouknight, BS, ACC, Past President

CONFERENCE CONCERNS 2008

We hope you all enjoyed the conference! I urge ALL OF YOU TO HELP ON THE CONFERENCE/EDUCATION COMMITTEES. It is a lot of work and time and unfortunately, we can never please everyone. We also do not have control over the hotel and how they handle things. This is true of ALL hotels. Any concerns you had with guest rooms, etc. should have been addressed with the hotel. We have no control over water temperatures, etc.

For all those who had suggestions for topics dealing with dementia, those will be covered at the One Day workshop July 11 in Columbia.

Vendors: Please refer to the concerns for 2007 in your conference notebook, that we asked all to read..

Breaks too long: Please refer the concerns for 2007 conference in your notebook, that we asked all to read.

Room Temperatures: The rooms were cold at times, but the hotels control the room temperatures. We try and keep them comfortable but cannot always do so. This is why we asked that everyone bring a sweater or coat with them. We also want to make sure the speaker is comfortable and does not get hot. This is an issue at all workshops and all hotels. Even the hotel halls were cold. Again, see conference concerns 2007.

Food: The hotels do not allow us to bring food in. We must use theirs and it is extremely costly. Your soda on Thursday was \$4.25. We cannot afford to have large breakfasts and lunch every day. The conference fee would have to be raised to about \$250.00 and I don't think most Administrators would send you. Most people can go out and eat for less. Some hotels also only provide juice by the bottle and it was too expensive at this hotel for us to have that at breakfast Thursday. When they offer it by the liter, we can look at offering it. Water was available in all session rooms. See concerns, 2007 conference.

Crowded session room: Unfortunately, the hotel has control over how the rooms are set. We do not have any say in that. We must give them a number and then they put us where they choose. This is true of all hotels. We must give the hotel a guaranteed number of people, by a set date, for meeting room sessions and meals. We are charged room set-up according to this and if we have to make changes, we are charged \$25.00 per hour for their labor to make changes. When people register late, or come to conference without being registered, this changes the numbers. We had a large number of people register late this year. **WE ENCOURAGE YOU ALL TO PLEASE REGISTER EARLY**, so this does not happen. So, two reasons the room was crowded: (1) the hotel set the room according to the number of people we gave them, and (2) late registrants messed up those numbers. Also, I think because the hotel set some of our Thursday sessions in a room larger than needed (because they did not have a smaller room available) it made the other sessions seem tighter. However, I think as Activity Professionals, we have to be flexible by nature. We were only in the room for 1.5 hours and I think we should have all been able to deal with that and look for what we could gain from the session, not focus on how crowded the room was.

Have restaurants "sponsor" SCAPA and go as a group: If any of you can find a restaurant willing to do this, please let us know. It also must be feasible for all to get there and meet everyone's tastes. Good luck! Groups also tend to take longer to get fed, which means we would have to change meeting session times. People working at conference often do not get to eat, or have to eat on the run. This also must be taken into consideration.

Have each topic offered twice: Not all speakers are willing to teach their sessions twice. Some sessions only apply to a certain group of people and don't need to be offered twice. We did have most sessions offered twice, to allow more to attend them, but cannot offer them all twice. It is not always feasible. Some of the sessions, such as Joyce Simard's also had overlap (they were also for 3 separate groups, 1st was Nsg. home, 2nd was independent, 3rd was ALF). She told this in her first session so you would not have to attend all three of hers. It was also stated in the session descriptions. We must also try and offer enough sessions to cover all facility types. NAAP has 6 sessions that are concurrent at their conference. All of them offer 6 sessions, for a total of 36 sessions. Only two of them are going to be offered twice this year. Another reason is to provide as much variety as possible and to offer as many topics as possible. For this reason, we need to pick the ones to attend that are most needed by ourselves, and those we serve.

Door Prizes: Some people down the hall were allowed to come get their prizes. The only people allowed to do this were the ones who were "working" for "free" to keep the conference going. Exceptions are made because they cannot be in the room as they are working, and they deserve prizes as much as everyone else does, if not more. Door prizes are a perk and not the reason we come to conference, yet there seem to be complaints every year. **Would you all prefer we not have door prizes? Please email and let me know.**

Someone also suggested going back to having members bringing them. We had complaints when we did it that way, year after year, and that is why we stopped it. We can look at doing it again as it seems that no matter what we do, someone is going to be unhappy.

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CONFERENCE CONCERNS—Continued

By Debbie Bouknight, BS, ACC, Past President

Add .5 hour on for breakfast: NCCAP nor LTHCA will grant CEU hours for breakfast or meetings, only educational sessions. There is a lot of paperwork, criteria and time that goes into getting their approval.

Water and Ice in Each Session: As far as we know, it was in each session, at the back of the room. We do not put it on tables as people knock it over. I know I saw it in all session rooms I was in. Please let me know which room it was not in.

More snacks/Drinks: Please see your conference concerns from 2007 in your notebook. We **WILL NOT** be offering more snacks and drinks as they are not affordable. Your one small soda on Thursday was \$4.25 and your Brownie was \$2.30. We cannot do that for all breaks without significantly increasing registration fees. A survey last year indicated you did not want fees to be raised based on food. If you require snacks and drinks, please bring them with you.

Hotel restaurant had a “C” rating: Contracts for hotels must be signed 1.5 to 2 years in advance. If we break the contract, we still have to pay them what we would have if we had held the conference, and cannot afford to do this. We had no control over them getting the “C” rating. However, if you read the sign, you saw it had to do with a dishwasher part they were waiting on. We actually had this same issue two weeks ago at our home. I am a little surprised at concerns over this, as most of us complain about pettiness with our own surveys, but don't extend the same courtesy to others that theirs may be a petty citation. There were also several other restaurant options available, close to the hotel and less expensive as well I might add. Most hotel restaurants are not cheap and most members rarely eat there anyway.

Seating Wednesday, wanted tables: The rooms are set according to what the speaker asks for. Tables could not be used for Yoga, nor for Joelean's session because of all the movement both speakers needed for their sessions. If you attend NAAP conference, you will not have tables in most sessions. Again, as Activity professionals, we need to be flexible. I hope you gained good information from the sessions Wednesday. That is what is important, not the room set-up. I wonder how many of us have less than ideal set-up situations at work, yet we deal with that every day.

Yoga as breakout session: We must have general sessions on Wednesday, therefore, we look for sessions that have wide appeal. We realize it may not appeal to every single person, but this program can be used in ALL FACILITY TYPES and that is what we looked at. Please also remember, we are there to get ideas of programs for our residents/clients, not looking for things we like to do.

Microphone for door prizes: Microphones were \$140.00 each per day plus 28% tax/service charge. Would anyone like to donate this for the next conference? I don't think we can justify that cost for calling out door prizes.

Large group sessions were “entertainment” instead of “meat”: I'm sorry, but I did personally get a lot of ideas from all the group sessions to use at my home. I had no idea how much the zoo & gardens had to offer. They also had some excellent craft ideas. The yoga session certainly didn't entertain me, but I did get ideas so we can start such a program at our home. Joelean's session gave lot's of ideas and ways you can use skits and humor within your programs. And Joyce's session Friday was to teach us how to teach the children, who come to our homes/Communities, how to interact with the elderly. I myself got a lot out of that and I was on the floor in the back of the room. I apologize to anyone who did not feel they got anything out of these sessions, but really don't know what else we could have offered. If you have specific ideas and speakers, who won't charge an arm and a leg (several of our speakers spoke free of charge), please let Amy Jackson know.

Again, I hope that we all will come to conference for what it is intended, to gain information and education on ways to improve/increase the programming for those we serve. We can find something wrong with every workshop or conference we attend, because things will never be perfect. If our attitude is right, we will not focus on the negative things that are of little importance in the overall scheme of things.



Joyce Chapman receives a gift from the Board for her years of service

Mary Richburg receives a gift from the Board for her years of service



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