



2/18/08

House of Delegate Report:

- AARC 60th Anniversary
- AARC membership increased to 44,550 (7% increase)
- 100,000 Credentials obtained in 2007!
- NBRC Grants Amnesty Period for RRT Eligibility If you graduated before 1/1/2005
 1. New deadline to obtain RRT credential has been extended to 2/28/09
- Continuing Competency requirements for Credentials is being enforced. No exemptions!
- 7 Free CRCE offerings for AARC members available on the AARC website (21 CRCE's)
- AARC Summit award: Delaware applied and received honorable mention for their excellence in AARC membership growth.
- Project 2015 and Beyond: AARC developing series of 3 conferences for the purpose of:
 1. Identifying future roles of RT's in 2015 and beyond
 2. The second conference will address education preparation and competency documentation issues for RT's 2015 and beyond
 3. The third and final conference will build upon the previous two and focus primarily on developing a practical transition from the current infrastructure to what will be needed to prepare RT's practicing in 2015 and beyond.

First conference to be held March 3, 2008 in Dallas, TX

- Respiratory Therapists and Public Health Services (PHS) Commissioned officer Status: Registered RT's with a Baccalaureate level degree now eligible to join the PHS Commissioned officer rank.

Prepared by Debbie Marckese RRT-NPS
HOD Delegate



Political Action Committee Team (PACT):

- Washington DC meeting March 10th & 11th 2008. To be attended by all U.S. states. Two DSRC Representatives attending: John Rendle and Debbie Marckese.
- Main objectives:
 1. HR 3968 Respiratory Therapy Initiative
Revise Medicare law to permit qualified RT's to provide certain RT services , such as smoking cessation, asthma management, MDI device and medication education , while under the general supervision of a MD. (without MD having to be physically present or on site)
 2. HR 552 and S329 Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehab. Act.
Legislation will mandate that the Medicare program provide national coverage for Cardiac and pulmonary rehab. programs and put an end to the current erratic and inconsistent policies that have left many individuals without access to these important services.

Need RT's, MD's and patients to send letters of support for the above Bills NOW!

AARC CALL TO ACTION NOW:

Go to www.AARC.org and click on the **Capital Connections** link to complete email letters. If you enter your zip code it will automatically fill in your State Senators and Representatives for you.

PASS on the message to your co-workers...

Prepared by : Debbie Marckese RRT-NPS