



The Experts' Express

February 2009

International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

Providing a Community for Rehabilitation Professionals

Welcome to The Experts' Express!

About The Experts' Express

The Experts' *Express* is a member-only monthly e-newsletter, keeping you informed about IARP issues and upcoming events. Each month different sections and chapters are highlighted. You will be provided with the latest news, details on member benefits, and information you will need to stay tuned in to what IARP is doing to give you the most for your membership.

Visit www.Rehabpro.org to enter the online world of rehabilitation professionals.

Behind the Calculator: IARP Treasurer's Report

IARP Treasurer's Report

John Meltzer
Treasurer

Through January 2009, with five months left in our fiscal year, we remain on track to finish in the black. Year-to-date, we are approximately \$50,000 ahead of budget. This is again largely due to membership revenue exceeding expectations and expenses tracking lower than what we had budgeted. We have also put aside \$50,000 into our reserve fund for a rainy day. The IARP Board of Directors and IARP Finance Committee are thrilled with the turn around the association has made, hopefully ensuring our financial future.

We have begun to plan for the 2009-2010 budget. Those who are considered stakeholders have been asked to submit their budget requests by the end of February. Drafts of the budget will initially be reviewed by the finance committee, before being presented to the board of directors for final approval at the board meeting in June 2009. Understanding that many members have cut back on their travel budgets, the association leadership is encouraging the sections to offer more distance learning opportunities to help you meet your educational needs. I trust that you will be seeing more offerings of this type and they will be reflected in the next budget.

Around the Globe: IARP Council of Chapter Presidents

IARP Council of Chapter Presidents Report

Dennis Funk
Council of Chapter Presidents Representative

In June of 1989 a single unarmed man in China stepped in front of a moving column of tanks in Tiananmen Square where protestors were being massacred. As the tanks attempted to maneuver around him he continued to step in front of them. This unnamed man was named by Time magazine as one of the 100 most influential people of the 20th Century. This man has not been seen since.

While courage is not generally the case in business or professionally it is an essential attribute of an effective leader. As a professional leader, demonstrate it and

encourage it in others and all of your profession benefits. Do tough economic times require greater courage than good times? Maybe for some ...but in my experience courage is a fundamental characteristic of an effective leader...in good times and bad!

In booming times chapter presidents and leadership must make difficult decisions which keep the focus on your membership needs. They take time out of their busy schedule to engage with the membership in a variety of ways to achieve the goals of your chapter as well as those of the association. In less than positive times your chapter leaders keep the lines of communication open with their mem-

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Go to www.rehabpro.org, log in, go to the Members Only section and click on "Earn CEUs". Members will only get the 5% discount by going through the IARP website.

Behavioral and Physical Disability: Innovations for Managing Complex Disability Issues and Claims

Presented by:

Dr. Pamela Warren
Carle Clinic Association

March 27, 2009
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. ET

The webinar will be 2 hours long and 2 CEU credits have been applied for.

For more information or to register today go to:

<http://www.rehabpro.org/events/innovations-for-managing-complex-disability-issues-and-claims/>

Chapter Highlights

IARP Oregon Chapter

The Injured Worker Fund

Michele Nielson
Member, Oregon Chapter

As I read comments on the IARP section listserv from colleagues across the nation, I am awed by the love of this chosen profession of rehabilitation. It is clear that we who continue to do this work are in it not just to earn a living but also to serve our fellow human beings. What stories there are! Our country is experiencing an economic downturn, our clients even more so.

For over a decade, Oregon vocational counselors have contributed to our own 501c3 non-profit organization called the Injured Worker Fund. This fund is managed by one person who has asked to be the point person. This person, Linda Hill now for a few years, has the authority to grant requests of up to \$200.00 for an injured worker presently being served by an IARP member. These one-time grants can be for anything to assist the worker to obtain or remain in employment. Examples include glasses, car repairs, tires, dental work, or a driver's license, and the list goes on. Linda receives the request and, on her own, makes the decision and distributes the funds. Periodically she sends letters to our membership to encourage donations, and our board occasionally has fund-raisers to maintain the fund.

We are proud to share with those less fortunate, and we are pleased to share this news with you. Perhaps your chapter would like to do something similar. For further information, please contact Linda Hill @ (503) 224-6808 or llhjca@ipns.com, or Oregon Chapter President Dennis Funk @ (503) 524-9613 or dennis@funktvoconsulting.com.

IARP Georgia Chapter

Cindi Pottinger
Past President, Georgia Chapter (PRSG)

The Georgia Chapter of the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (IARP) PRSG held its second annual conference entitled "*Delta Worka Compa – Taking the Greek Out of Rehabilitation*" on Novem-

ber 15, 2008, at the Marietta Conference Center. This year's list of presenters was even more prestigious than last year, as PRSG was able to secure Donald Peck Leslie, M.D., medical director of the Shepherd Center as the keynote speaker this year. Dr. Leslie is a nationally-renowned expert on spinal cord and brain injury, and we were extremely grateful that he accepted our invitation to speak. His presentation entitled "Alpha to Zeta, It's Greek to Me" proved to be very informative on all aspects of rehabilitation from catastrophic injury.

Roger Weed, Ph.D. (pictured right) and Tim Field, Ph.D. (pictured left), two of the top professionals in the field of vocational rehabilitation also agreed to present again this year. In a "Point – Counterpoint" style of presentation, Drs.



Weed and Field entertained us with their topic "Critical Issues in Professional Association Activity; The Changing Milieu". In addition to these outstanding speakers, Dr. Fred Mullins, medical director of the Joseph Still Burn Center in Augusta presented "Overview of Burn Injury and Recovery". Dr. Mullins is considered one of the best experts in the country today in the treatment of burn injuries. The Augusta Burn Center is nationally known for its innovative treatment for serious burns. Other topics included "Mission Possible" by William Terrell, M.D. about an incredible technique he has been trained in that is only used in Russia to treat limb abnormalities. There was also a fascinating panel discussion on "Ethics in Case Management" with attorney Mike Rosetti, SBWC Rehabilitation Coordinator Nan Decolaines, Rehabilitation educator Debbie Berens, and LuRae Ahrendt, catastrophic rehabilitation supplier. Finally, Arthur Simon, M.D., plastic and hand surgeon with Shepherd Center (and in private practice) presented on the latest plastic surgery techniques in "Reconstructing David".

(Chapter Highlights Continued on page 6)

Section Focus

IARP Case Management Section

Section Report

Jon Veltri

Case Management Section Representative

The IARP Case Management section had its last board of directors meeting on January 30, 2009. A new and final board member was welcomed, Giles Bronson of GENEX in Nevada. We now have a full board of directors again after the departure of the last chair of the case management section from the CM section board.

We finalized and approved the Case Management Section Policy and Procedures guideline and submitted it to IARP headquarters for further distribution.

Support was solicited from CM Section board member Dr. Pamela Warren to conduct a webinar for the education committee. This was in response to the request from Carl Wangman, IARP executive director, to have each section support a webinar. The webinar, entitled "Behavioral and Physical Disability: Innovations for Managing Complex Disability Issues and Claims," is scheduled for the end of March. I encourage all CM section members to register for the upcoming webinar on March 27, 2009. Dr. Warren is a nationally recognized expert on behavioral health disability issues and their interaction with physical disabilities. I have had the opportunity to see her present in more than one professional venue and her knowledge and approach to learning are unparalleled. Participants will not be disappointed.

In recent discussions, we have been working towards our goal of a combined case management/disability management conference. We decided that all members of our board will participate on a committee to work on various components of this conference. We will be working with Don Shrey, disability management section chair, and we will coordinate combining efforts on this endeavor.

Lastly, we discussed the need to increase traffic and usage on the CM/DM listserv. All board members were asked to bring ideas to increase participation to our next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 6th at 10:00 a.m. Mountain Time.

The next six months are going to be an exciting time for the CM section as we gear up for the next fiscal year and begin planning the first IARP CM/DM conference. I encourage any interested members to contact me at jon.veltri@genexservices.com if you are interested in volunteering and working on this proposed conference.

Behavioral and Physical Disability: Innovations for Managing Complex Disability Issues and Claims

Presented by: Dr. Pamela Warren

Carle Clinic Association

March 27, 2009

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Objectives

This webinar will help professionals:

- ◆ Understand the prevalence of co-morbid physical and behavioral health concerns in the disability and case management fields
 - ◆ Clarify the differences between the malingering and objective psychological issues
 - ◆ Identify factors that impede the return to work process
- ◆ Develop a model for removing barriers with treating professionals, employees/clients, and employers

For more information or to register today go to:

<http://www.rehabpro.org/events/innovations-for-managing-complex-disability-issues-and-claims/>

Express Job Bank Highlights

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

Rehabilitation Team Associates, a leading provider of vocational rehabilitation and medical case management services in Michigan, is accepting applications for the position of vocational rehabilitation counselor. The position can be based out of Lansing, Jackson, Ann Arbor, or Detroit area. Job duties include vocational assessments, case management, job placement activities, and vocational counseling. Experience with workers' compensation, auto no-fault, and LTD case management with 1-2 years experience is highly desirable. Requirements include a master's degree in a counseling field. CRC/LPC preferred.

Consideration can be given for full or part-time employment. Compensation package includes competitive salary, company car, and full benefit package. Please submit your resume and letter of interest to:

Rehabilitation Team Associates, Inc.
1407 S. Euclid Avenue
Bay City, Michigan 49722

Quality Case Managers

Ability Services Network, Inc (ASN) is a

dynamic, friendly, family-oriented team of professionals seeking to find contractual medical (RN) or vocational case managers throughout the United States.

Ability Services Network, Inc., is a national field case management and specialty services company based in Duluth, Georgia.

The ideal candidate will meet the following qualifications:

- ◆ Prefer two-five years of Field Case Management experience
- ◆ RN in good standing with CRRN, COHN, CDMS or CCM or master's degree in rehabilitation counseling or related field with CRC, CDMS, CCM preferred
- ◆ Experienced in handling longshore, workers compensation, and/or dDisability cases
- ◆ Bi-lingual a plus
- ◆ Internet access and basic computer skills required

Please visit our website at

www.abilityservicesnetwork.com

Fax resume to: 860-413-9606 or e-mail to aheine@abilityservicesnetwork.com



IARP

Dedicated to return-to-work services on behalf of persons with disabilities and the economically disadvantaged.

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Jon P. Veltri, Case Management
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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

IARP Journals Now Available in Printed Format

The International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals will now offer both the RehabPro and the Journal of Life Care Planning in a printed format. Members will now be offered the option of receiving their sections journal in a printed format in addition to the regular electronic version.

If you are interested in receiving a printed version of one or both of the IARP journals, please go to the IARP Web site, www.rehabpro.org, log in and click on Members-Only. Download the form by clicking on "Special Printed Journals Order Form." Or, log in and click on this link: <https://www.rehabpro.org/mv-iarp/Journals%20PRINTED%20format%20order%20Form.doc>.

News Flash

IARP Education Committee

Deb Holmes

Chair, Education Committee

Traditionally, we have viewed our education and training opportunities as in-person participation but we are now experiencing shifts in how education and training is perceived, designed and delivered. On-line, web-based opportunities are continuing to emerge as they are seen as a viable, valuable and cost-effective to the consumer. The increasing popularity of mp3 players, PDA's, and Smart Phones has provided new mediums for the distribution of distance education content. Already we have seen many on-line degree programs emerge in addition to specialty training geared toward the rehabilitation profession.

A task force has been developed to explore distance learning opportunities for IARP members. The task force consists of Rodney Isom, Estelle Hutchinson, Crisann Schiro-Geist and myself. Our Executive Director, Carl Wangman, is actively participating in these discussions and offering his expertise. The members have experience with distance learning design, instruction and participation, each bringing a different perspective to the exploration process. In the near future, we will be previewing a demonstration provided by a major university and hope to enter into discussions with them to enhance the education and training opportunities we already provide.

As the economy continues to affect our expenditures, we may not be able to attend conferences with the regularity we would like. Distance learning will enable us to move forward with our continuing education and participate at our leisure, within an established time-frame.

IARP recently offered a webinar entitled "Increasing Efficiency Through Office Technology", presented by Mr. Keith Sofka. The next webinar will take place on March 27, 2009, presented by Dr. Pamela Warren. Her presentation is "Behavioral and Physical Disability and Co-Morbidity: Innovations For Managing Complex Disability Issues and Claims. Watch for the registration information on the Web site under IARP News.

**Sign in today at www.RehabPro.org
and visit the IARP Document Library
in the Members' Only section**

(Chapter presidents continued from page 1)

bers to ensure that your needs are being heard and decisions, no matter how difficult, are being made with your best interest in mind. This often requires difficult if not brave and bold choices.

I am pleased to report that your chapter presidents have lived up to their roles and responsibilities as leaders of your profession. Despite the pervasive economic troubles of our nation and those specifically over the past year in our association your chapter presidents have been instrumental in helping guide the association with courageous decision making and in effect maneuvering around the obstacles which have come our way. Through their leadership the future of our association is

bright. New members are being added each month and a concerted effort is being made to retain our current members as never before. We are ever so close to adding a Canadian chapter to our fold. The best is yet to come.

Although there have not been advancing tanks for them to outmaneuver, some of the decision making of the chapter presidents and the association leadership has been courageous in many respects. Tough, bold decisions have been made and as a result our association and profession is better for it. Your chapter is always in need of courageous leaders and dedicated professionals. Stand up and participate! Your assistance is always welcome.

Welcome New IARP Members

We would like to congratulate all of the below listed individuals for becoming members of the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals. Welcome aboard! And thank you to those that referred them. Great job!

Neil Bennett,
President, IARP

New Member:

Ali Manitsas
Barry Brown
Don Fong
Eva Bordeaux
James Peters
Joseph Ortenzi
Kristen Peterson
Todd Kimball
Virgilio Carabello
Warren Maxim
Charlotte Howe
Angela Howard
Anne Mileham
Elizabeth Noseworthy
Gina Sutton
Jaime Levey
Jeni Miller
Joseph Law
Kathleen Sipes
Leslie Goldsmith
Lisa Westfall
Nancy Forest
Patricia Rapson
Patrick Sweeney
Sara Ford
Sue Turner

Referred by:

Dennis Funk
Lynne Kaufman
Dianne Simmons Grab
Nancy Wells
Dave Radecke
Kathy Trumm
Amy Williams
Amy Williams
George Carnevale

(Chapter Highlights Continued from page 2)

Once again, PRSG was able to integrate the workers' comp related conference to include not only rehabilitation professionals, but also attorneys and adjusters in order to network on the best practices regarding returning to work in the field. In addition, the first annual **Larry Huggins Rehabilitation Professional of the Year Award** was presented to the first recipient, David Goudelock, M.A., CRC, CCM, CDMS, CLCP. David has been a dedicated professional in the field of rehabilitation for over 20 years. Following the conference, attendees were treated to a luscious Greek buffet and a very entertaining program featuring the nationally-renowned young Elvis impersonator, Harold



Schultz. Attendance this year was even greater than last year's conference, with a total of 30 vendors exhibiting.

IARP Louisiana Chapter

Event Announcement

2009 Annual / Legislative Conference
March 25 – 26, 2009
Sheraton Baton Rouge Convention Center
202 France Street, Baton Rouge, LA
Please to go to <http://www.rehabpro.org/local-chapters/louisiana/louisiana-chapter-events/2009-annual-legislative-conference/> for more information or to view the conference brochure.



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Providing a Community for
Rehabilitation Professionals

**VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT
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The International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals provides a community for rehabilitation professionals in their quest for education and professional growth.

- ◆ IARP serves a diverse membership practicing in the fields of long-term disability and disability management consulting, case management and managed care, forensics and expert testimony, life care planning, and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) consulting.
- ◆ IARP supports professional growth of its 2,500 members by providing an ethics code, professional competence standards, continuing education programs, networking opportunities, and group-discounted packages of professional benefits.
- ◆ IARP fosters rehabilitation research and management innovation through national conferences and the publication of peer-reviewed articles in RehabPro, its quarterly journal.
- ◆ IARP strives to shape public policy favorable to private-sector rehabilitation by working closely with other professional associations, government, and industry. Explore our web site to learn more about the IARP mission and how we work to achieve it.

Member's Corner

The IARP Web Site

Your Resource Center

The IARP Web site, www.rehabpro.org, offers multiple resources for our members. News, events, and important information are added to the Web site frequently. The below information was recently added:

- ◆ An article excerpted from the publication NARRPS Journal 10 (3) 1995 entitled "The Forensic Vocational Expert's Approach to Wage Loss Analysis". To view this article log in, go to the Members-Only section, and then click on the link for the Document Library or log in and click here <http://www.rehabpro.org/my-iarp/document-library/WageLossAnalysisBoydToppino.pdf>.
- ◆ An article excerpted from the publication NARRPS Journal 6 (1) 1998. To view this article log in, go to the Members-Only section, and then click on the link for the Document Library or log in and click here <https://www.rehabpro.org/my-iarp/document-library/Evolving%20KnowledgeJan.Feb1998.pdf>.
- ◆ Webinar opportunity: "Behavioral and Physical Disability: Innovations for Managing Complex Disability Issues and Claims." For more information go to www.rehabpro.org and click on "Events."

Visit the Web site often to stay current on industry information, national and chapter events, and association news.