

Texas Chapter (TARPPS) Happenings

The Texas Chapter of IARP (TARPPS) has planned for a very active 2008 – activities that consist of several monthly educational seminars in the Dallas area, a special 25th Anniversary Dinner, two All-Day Seminars, election of new officers and board members, and organization of Educational and Activity Committees in Houston and Central Texas (Austin – San Antonio).

In addition, there will be special membership recruitment activities geared toward students enrolled in college rehabilitation programs, new members, former members of TARPPS, and educators in college/university rehabilitation programs.

25th Anniversary Observance

TARPPS will observe the 25th Anniversary of the chapter's founding at a special Anniversary Observance on Thursday, February 29, 2008. The occasion will be used not only to celebrate the founding of an organization, but to recognize those individuals who carried out the founding activities that led to the chapter's charter as a Texas not-for-profit professional association and as a recognized state chapter of the National Association of Rehabilitation Professionals in the Private Sector (NARPPS) – later to change its name to the current International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (IARP).

The Anniversary Observance will feature a reception, dinner, special recognition activities, and an awards ceremony. Hundreds of individuals who have, in some way, contributed to the creation and continuation of TARPPS have been invited to the Anniversary Observance. These include the original Founding Members, former Chapter Presidents, former Chapter Officers (Secretaries, Treasurers), former Board Members, and Texas Chapter members who have served IARP or have been recognized by IARP in its Annual Awards Program.

The Texas Chapter also served as the Founding Chapter sponsor for the Louisiana IARP Chapter in the 1980's, and to commemorate this, the current officers and members of the Louisiana Chapter have been invited to attend the Anniversary Observance and All-Day Seminar.

Time will be taken during the Awards Observance to recognize these various groups and their contributions to TARPPS.

The Texas Chapter will, during this Anniversary Observance, also introduce and honor its various recipients for 2007 Chapter Awards – including Rehabilitation Professional of the Year, Physician of the Year, Rehabilitation Facility or Program of the Year, and the Outstanding Rehabilitation Participant of the Year.

New Officer and Board Member Elections To Be Held

Announcements have gone to all current members of TARPPS, via regular mail and e-mail, that nominations are currently being accepted for all Chapter Officers and Board Member positions. Nominations may be self-made or may be made by any current member of TARPPS. All Nomination Forms are due to President Tom Selman on or before Friday, January 25.

Election ballots, along with biographical, professional, and association information, will be sent to all current TARPPS members from January 28 – 31 – via regular mail and e-mail attachment. Members who wish to vote will have until Monday, February 18, 2008, to return their marked ballot. Winners will be notified on February 21 and invited to be present for the official announcement of their election at the Anniversary Observance on Thursday, February 29, in Dallas.

Positions open include: President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Board members (2) for the Dallas – Fort Worth – North Texas area, Board Members (2) for the Houston area, Board Member (1) for the Austin- San Antonio- Central Texas area, and Board Member At-Large (1) to represent the remainder of the State. Officially, each elected individual will assume their offices in May 2008, but several will also receive special immediate appointments to fill current vacancies.

Anyone can request a Nomination Form by contacting President Tom Selman at 972/788-2069 or selmanthomas@sbcglobal.net.

All-Day Seminar

In conjunction with the special Anniversary Observance, there will be an All-Day Seminar on Friday, February 29, 2008. This seminar replaces one originally scheduled in October 2007. The All-Day Seminar will be held at the Spring Creek Campus Conference Center of Collin College in Plano, Texas.

The All-Day Seminar will feature a number of presentations to bring TARPPS members and guests up-to-date regarding case management, vocational rehabilitation, Texas workers' compensation, designated federal rehabilitation programs, and services/programs of special note. Of course, each presentation will be designed to inform, educate, and train those present. Several of the sessions have been organized to include special interactive portions to get attendees actively involved in sharing ideas and experiences that may be helpful to others in attendance.

The All-Day Seminars schedule is:

7:00 a. m. – 8:00 a.m. Registration; Breakfast; Networking; Exhibits Open

8:00 a. m. – 9:15 a. m. **Multidisciplinary Care of the Injured Spine Patient – the Future!**

Kevin Gill, M. D.
Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas

9:15 a. m. – 10:30 a. m. **A New Social Security “Ticket to Work” Program**

Paula Vieillet, M. A. E., CVE
Employment Options, Inc.
St. Petersburg, Florida

Ms Vieillet will be joined in the presentation by a representative of the United States Social Security Administration, Ticket to Work Program

10:30 a. m. - 11:00 a. m. Break/Networking/Exhibits Open

11:00 a. m. - 12:00 p. m. **When Claims Happen Validating Claims With Ergonomics Reports and Getting an Audience With Healthcare Physicians**

Heather McBride, OTR, AOEE
H. M. Health, Inc.
Rowlett, Texas 75089

Keith Michael White, Ph. D., CPE
Lennox International, Inc.
Dallas, Texas

12:00 p. m. – 12:30 p. m. Lunch/Networking/Exhibits Open

12:30 p. m. - 2:00 p. m. Special Ethics Presentation
Ethics: A Musical Comedy

Tim Anderson, MS, LPC
Gordon Leeman, MS, CRC
Meredith A. Jeppson, AA
Dancing Moose Productions
Denton, Texas

2:00 p. m. - 3:15 p. m. **Competing in a Changing Job Market**

Darleen Lortz, MS, CRC, NCC, CART, LPC
Motivational Foundations, Inc.
Lake Dallas, Texas

3:15 p. m. - 3:45 p. m. Break/Networking/Exhibits Open

3:45 p. m. - 5:00 p. m. **Vocational Case Management in the Texas Workers Comp Market: Refining, Reinventing and Re-establishing Ourselves and Our Services for Relevance and Survival**

Moderator/Presenter: Laura Bridges, MS, CRC, CDMS, CCM
Broadspire – A Crawford Company
Dallas, Texas

Party A number of Adjusters from Insurance Companies and Third
Administrator as well as Employers will join Ms Bridges for a
they do portion of the Presentation to explain why they do and why
not purchase vocational rehabilitation services as well as
describe the types of vocational products needed and which they might
purchase.

8.0 contact hours for continuing education will be awarded for those attending the entire seminar for CRC, CDMS, CCM, and LPC.

General Announcements with more detailed information will be mailed and e-mailed during the week of January 3 – 9.
