

Issue 4, 2008 (December)

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Important Dates to Remember

Board of Directors Meeting – January 15, 2009
 Board of Directors Meeting – February 19, 2009
 OUMC Respiratory Seminar – February 26, 2009
 PACT Lobby Days – March 9-10, 2009
 Board of Directors Meeting – March 19, 2009
 World TB Day – March 24, 2009
 Kick Butts Day – March 25, 2009
 World Asthma Day – May 5, 2009
 2009 OSRC State Seminar – June 10-12, 2009

New Officers Elected

The OSRC has elected new officers for 2009, and will begin their term of service on January 1. (The President Elect automatically becomes President, and the Past President automatically becomes Past President). The new officers were sworn in at the Fall Seminar in Tulsa.



(Doug Odor, Petrina Nesbitt, Betty Fisher, Jim Poterfield)

The 2009 Officers are::

<i>President Elect:</i>	Doug Odor
<i>President:</i>	Betty Fisher
<i>Past President:</i>	Jacki McCaffrey
<i>Vice President:</i>	Petrina Nesbitt
<i>Secretary:</i>	Julie Fanselau
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Jim Porterfield
<i>Audit Chair:</i>	Pat Vaughn

Please be supportive of these individuals, as they generously volunteer their time and effort to make the OSRC better for all of us.

Individual pictures of all officers can be found on the OSRC Website at:
<http://www.okrespiratorycare.org/contact-us>

Fall Seminar a Success

Thanks to everyone who attended or helped with our Fall Seminar. Cherokee Casino/Resort was a great place to host the Seminar. Check the OSRC Website for pictures from the event.

Political Advocacy News

The OSRC Political Advocacy Contact Team (PACT) Co-chairs are getting



ready for the 10th annual AARC PACT “Meeting on the Hill” March 9 -10, 2009. Jacki McAffrey and Karen Gregory, Co-chairs of PACT along with Ken McAffrey, PACT member, will be meeting our Oklahoma legislators in Washington DC. They will discuss specific bills that our vital for respiratory care practitioners. Jacki, Ken, and Karen are well acquainted with our Oklahoma Senators and Representatives and after many annual meetings,

legislators look forward to discussing respiratory health in Oklahoma.

Last year there were 110 respiratory therapists from 46 states visiting almost 300 legislative offices. Jerry Bridges, respiratory therapist from Mississippi and a 10- year PACT member and mentor, says "it's necessary to have a consistent PACT team that returns to Capitol Hill every year because it develops strong relationships that allow legislators and their staff to better hear the voice of respiratory care practitioners". The AARC is grateful to all respiratory societies for supporting and helping to fund the Meeting on the Hill each year.

Karen and Jacki would like to encourage all respiratory care practitioners to join Oklahoma's unique "5 for 5 Plan". Oklahoma has 5 Congressional United States districts. OSRC devised the "5 for 5" Plan (modeled after the AARC's 435 Plan representing the 435 congressional districts in the United States) for the Great State of Oklahoma. The OSRC's 5 for 5 Plan's goal is for 5 or more respiratory care practitioners from each of the 5 districts contact Oklahoma legislators when the 435 Plan is implemented and other times through the year. Please visit our OSRC website for more information.

News from the Lung Association

We have so many wonderful things happening in Oklahoma. Our programs are in full swing across the state... special events are up and running... and we are pleased to announce we now have a new Director of Advocacy, Connie Befort and a new Program Director, Roy Garanton! I wanted to give you all a recap of what is happening locally in both Tulsa and Oklahoma City. We are always looking for new volunteers to help us with our special event committees, health fairs, advocacy & programming efforts. Another NEW component we're excited to roll out is the O2 Society, which is a membership group offering its members professional development activities consisting of social networking and a lunch 'n learn (or the word on the street is cocktail 'n learn) educational series. If you're interested in helping us in any of the areas mentioned, please email Chesley Stiggers at



dstiggers@breathehealthy.org and she will forward your information to the correct staff person.

PROGRAM UPDATES

- **Breathe Well, Live Well** - we completed a grant to provide an asthma management program to adults with asthma; 121 participants completed the program
- **Asthma 101** - 5 schools have participated in the program; 105 participants. We participated in the Tween and Teen Oklahoma Girl Scout Conference and educated 30 girls and 7 parents. (Oklahoma City)
- We will be hosting 2 Living With Asthma Night programs
- **Winning with Asthma** - 16 coaches have completed the program, and received their clipboard and certificate signed by the Lt. Governor
- **Health Fairs** - We partnered with the Norman Specialty Hospital to provide lung function screenings to 35 people at the Blue Cross Blue Shield health fair in OKC.
- **Open Airways for Schools** - we have 24 new volunteer program facilitators
- Oklahoma City - 3 schools participating in OAS (75 students)
- Tulsa - 1 school participating in OAS (5 students)
- **Freedom from Smoking** (smoking cessation facilitator training) - Training held Nov. 5-6 in Tulsa; 6 new cessation facilitators
- **Breathe Smart from the Start** - This program offers women and "coaches" (friends, husbands, close family members) a guide to understanding the hazards associated with secondhand smoke and smoking during pregnancy. We presented the program to the Tulsa Area United Way for potential funding on Nov. 3.
- 180 participants have completed the program (Tulsa)
- We will be applying for funding to implement the program in the Oklahoma City area

Also, mark your calendars today for the Tulsa Clean Air Challenge 5K Run/Walk to be held on Friday, May 1st, 2009... more information to come! Thank you to Stephanie Phipps for agreeing to chair this event!

BREATHE: A LUNG HEALTH LUNCHEON --
Tuesday, February 3rd 2009 at Quail Creek Golf & Country Club

The new luncheon in Oklahoma City is off to a tremendous start with the leadership of Elaine Levy and Mary Blankenship-Pointer, event Co-Chairs. The Breathe: A Lung Health Luncheon, formerly known as the Women's Lung Health Forum, kicked off festivities with a Table Hostess Luncheon, hosted by Elaine and Mary at The Coach House Restaurant on October 29.

Elaine and Mary, along with Table Hostess Chair, Lesley St. John, have been instrumental in recruiting individuals

to "host" a table at the February 3 luncheon. The Breathe: A Lung Health Luncheon will be held at the Quail Creek Golf & Country Club and will feature the sister of Dana Reeve, Deborah Morosini as the keynote speaker. Additionally, guests will have the opportunity to enjoy a fabulous meal and peruse the Chinese Auction -- offering high end items such as a Prada bag and Coco Channel sunglasses, for bidding by dropping raffle tickets into containers next to your favorite items.

Mark your calendars for the OKC Clean Air Challenge 5K Run/Walk to be held on Saturday, May 9th, 2009... more information to come!

ADVOCACY UPDATES

Mark your calendars for Lobby Day, February 24, 2009 to come to the State Capitol and make your statements for the issues we will have regarding State Preemption and Smokefree workplaces. I will provide more details to you once the bills have been finalized and sponsored.

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2009 OSRC State Seminar

The OSRC 2009 Seminar will be held at the Reed Center in Midwest City on June 10-12. Planning for the Seminar is now underway. If you have any suggestions for speakers, please forward them to Petrina Nesbitt at petrina.nesbitt@hcahealthcare.com.

Don't forget that the 2nd annual Sputum Bowl will be held at the Spring Seminar, so get your teams ready! The 2008 Sputum Bowl was won by Austry Technology Center.

Educational Offerings at OU Med Center

Mark your calendars for February 26, 2009 – OU Medical Center will be hosting a respiratory symposium worth 5 CEUs.



More information will be posted on the OSRC website when it becomes available.

In addition, an Asthma Educator Workshop is tentatively planned by OUMC for March. If you are interested in taking the AE-C exam, watch for more details on this helpful review course.

News from the Respiratory Care Board

The announced meeting dates for the Respiratory Care Advisory Committee of the OBMLS are as follows:

- February 26
- May 7
- September 3
- November 5

The Respiratory Care Board in Oklahoma has announced a position statement on concurrent therapy. As you may be aware, both the AARC and CMS have adopted positions in opposition to concurrent therapy. This is considered an unacceptable respiratory care practice by the OBMLS as well, and those who practice such are potentially putting their license in jeopardy. A letter to this effect will be sent to all licensed practitioners in the state of Oklahoma with this information.

What's Your FAQ?

The OSRC website is adding a "FAQ" (frequently asked questions) page. What exactly would you like to know about the OSRC? If you have suggestions, please e-mail them to the OSRC webmaster at: jim@jeffcoat.com or visit www.okrespiratorycare.org for details.



Happy New Year
From the OSRC!

OSRC Officers and Chairpersons (As of 1/1/09)

President	Betty Fisher, RRT, CPFT	bfisher@francistuttle.com
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Scholarship Chair	Doug Odor, RRT	doug.odor@integris-health.com
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The OSRC Newsletter is published quarterly. If you have submissions you would like to have published, please contact the Newsletter Editor. To view previous newsletters, please visit <http://www.okrespiratorycare.org> and click on "NEWS". (Adobe Reader required).

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