



January/February 2016 e-News

Posted on February 1, 2016

Happy New Year from NCTRC!

e-mail Notification....Are you up-to-date?

NCTRC uses e-mail notification as the first and primary means of communicating important information to all CTRs. Please make sure that all of your contact information is up-to-date especially your e-mail address so that notifications are received in a timely manner.

Please visit [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) to log in. If you are having difficulties accessing your account, click "Reset my Password" at the bottom of the page. You will be asked for the email address in the NCTRC database. If your email has changed, please send a request to change your email address to nctrc@nctrc.org. Please see the message sent to your email address and follow the instructions listed.

CTRs to Celebrate Therapeutic Recreation Month: February 2016

The purpose of Therapeutic Recreation Month is to enhance public awareness of therapeutic recreation programs and recreational therapy services, promote inclusive recreation opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and recognize the CTRs as the qualified provider of RT services. According to NCTRC, recreation therapy, also known as therapeutic recreation, is a systematic process that utilizes recreation and other activity-based interventions based upon the assessed needs of individuals with illnesses and/or disabling conditions. The purpose of the RT process is to improve or maintain physical, cognitive, social, emotional and spiritual functioning in order to facilitate full participation in life. For more information please see the [NCTRC Scope of Practice](#).

NCTRC has developed a [TR Month Flyer](#) for promotional use. Please feel free to print this marketing tool and make several copies to display at your agency. NCTRC also offers an array of promotional materials for use at your agency during TR Month or any other time to help promote the CTRs credential and recreational therapy services. All NCTRC promotional materials can be downloaded in PDF format from the [NCTRC website](#) or you can contact NCTRC if you would like multiple copies of a specific brochure.

During TR Month, CTRs and their agencies will host a series of lectures and presentations, career days,

adaptive sport events, workshops, receptions, information booths, and open houses. Proclamations, press releases, articles and public service announcements are also great ways to enhance the awareness of the CTRS credential during Therapeutic Recreation Month. The American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA) and the Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association (CTRA) offer promotional items at their respective websites to enhance the TR Month celebration.

NCTRC Welcomes New Board Members

As a result of the recently conducted Board election, NCTRC is proud to announce the addition of three new members to its Board of Directors. C. Armstrong Beyerlin “Missy Armstrong,” CTRS/R, Colleen A. Cooke, CTRS and Melissa L. Zahl, CTRS/L will officially join the NCTRC Board in April 2016 and serve a three-year term from 2016-2019. A brief profile of each new member appears below.



C. Armstrong Beyerlin “Missy Armstrong,” MS, CTRS/R, FDRT resides in Seattle, Washington. Missy earned her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Puget Sound and a Master of Science in Recreation and Park Management from the University of Oregon. Missy is currently the Manager of Strategic Projects and Psychiatry at Harborview Medical Center, University of Washington.



Colleen A. Cooke, EdD, CTRS resides in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Colleen earned her Bachelor of Science in Therapeutic Recreation from Slippery Rock University, a Master of Education in Counseling from the University of Pittsburgh and a EdD in Healthcare Education from Nova Southeastern University. Colleen is currently a Professor in Recreational Therapy at Slippery Rock University.



Melissa L. Zahl, PhD, CTRS/L resides in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Melissa has a Bachelor of Science in Recreation Leisure Services with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation from the University of North Dakota, a Master of Science in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism and a PhD in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism from the University of Utah. Melissa is currently Assistant Professor at Oklahoma State University.

If you or someone you know is interested in being considered for the NCTRC Board or committee appointment, please contact the NCTRC Nomination and Elections Committee via Anne Richard, at (845) 639-1439 or arichard@nctrc.org.

Recreation Therapy in the News

<http://nhpr.org/post/recreation-therapy-program-veterans-offers-relief-ptsd-tbi>

<http://www.reifpsychservices.com/recreational-therapy/>

Licensure Reminders

There are currently 4 states that require licensure to practice as a recreation therapist (Oklahoma, New Hampshire, North Carolina and Utah). If you live in and/or plan on working as a recreation therapist in one of those states, NCTRC would like to remind you that you will need to contact the local licensure board for information on how to get licensed in that state.

NCTRC is Out and About

In an effort to continuously market the CTRS credential, NCTRC is scheduled to present at the following conferences and ATRA Webinars:

February 7-9, 2016 – ATRA Mid-Year Conference, San Antonio, TX

March 29, 2016, 7-8pm EST – New Application Standards – ATRA Webinar

April 10-12, 2016 – NYSTRA Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY

April 18-20, 2016 – Midwest TR Symposium, St. Louis, MO

May 4, 2016, 1-2pm EST – Internship Guidelines – ATRA Webinar

May 11, 2016, 1-2pm EST – Recertification Standards – ATRA Webinar

September 7, 2016, 1-2pm EST – Specialty Certification – ATRA Webinar

For further information about the webinars, please visit the ATRA website at:

<http://www.atra-online.com>

Please mark your calendars and plan on visiting the NCTRC staff at one of these conferences.

March Annual Maintenance Reminder

The March 2016 renewal cycle is now in effect. NCTRC will notify CTRs of their pending renewal date by email or postcard. Certificants can complete the CTRs renewal process on-line via [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#). Printed application packets are available upon request by contacting NCTRC at 845-639-1439. Please be sure to update your current contact information with NCTRC.

May Recertification Exam Option

Please be advised that certificants who are at the end of the five year recertification cycle can take the NCTRC exam to meet the requirements for recertification. The May 2016 exam is the only exam that can be completed to meet the May cycle recertification requirements. The registration deadline for the May 2016 exam is March 5, 2016. Please visit the [NCTRC website](#) to access the exam registration form. On the home page, click “exam” or use your log-in information to access the form. There are two options for submission: fill out the registration form online and submit it with a credit card payment or print and complete the registration form and mail it directly to NCTRC with a check, money order or credit card number. CTRs that complete the exam for recertification are required to complete and submit the NCTRC recertification application and fee along with the exam fee. The dates for the May 2016 exam are May 2-14, 2016.

NCTRC Annual Board Meeting

The NCTRC Board of Directors and Standing Committees will conduct the NCTRC Annual Meeting on March 31-April 1, 2016 in Central Valley, NY. Among other items, the agenda for the meeting includes review and acceptance of the annual budget, proposed standards changes, and submitted committee reports. Newly elected Board Members and recently appointed Standing Committee members will begin their three-year terms commencing with the annual meeting. Please contact NCTRC if you have any questions regarding the annual meeting.

Did you know...

NCTRC has three Standing Committees in addition to a nine person Board of Directors. These committees are comprised of CTRs from across the US and Canada. If you have an interest in being considered for appointment to a committee when vacancies occur, please contact NCTRC. This is a great way to become more familiar with the standards and serve the profession.

- Standards Review Committee (SRC) – responsible for new application appeals and disciplinary review

- Standards Hearing Committee (SHC) – responsible for recertification appeals and disciplinary appeals
- Exam Management Committee (EMC) – responsible for the on-going development of the national exam

Please contact NCTRC at 845-639-1439 or nctrc@nctrc.org if you have any comments or questions.

Thank you for your continued support of NCTRC and the CTRS credential!

CONTACT US

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HOME

ACCREDITATION

FORMS

SITEMAP

LINKS

[American Therapeutic Recreation Association](#)

[Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association](#)

[Institute for Credentialing Excellence](#)

[Therapeutic Recreation Directory](#)

[US Dept. of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook](#)

[Recreation Therapy Licensure Boards:](#)

[New Hampshire](#)

[North Carolina](#)

[Oklahoma](#)

[Utah](#)



NCTRC is a member of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE) and the CTRS Credentialing Program is accredited by National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

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