



October 2008

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**National Council
For Therapeutic
Recreation
Certification**

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Welcome to NCTRC e-News!

NCTRC Attends ATRA and NTRS Annual Conferences

This fall has proved to be a very busy travel season for NCTRC Board and Staff. The highlight among several trips was attending both the American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA) and the National Therapeutic Recreation Society (NTRS) Annual Meetings. Both conferences provided a wealth of information and an opportunity for important professional networking.

The ATRA annual conference was held in Reno, Nevada from September 28th to October 2nd. NCTRC participated in a variety of professional opportunities including presenting three educational sessions and providing information to participants via the NCTRC exhibition booth. NCTRC also conducted its official Annual Certificants Meeting at the ATRA Conference. In total about 30 CTRSs were in attendance. A wide range of topics were covered at the meeting including:

- Overview of Standard Changes
- NOCA Re-Accreditation
- NCTRC Exam Statistics and Results
- Overview of new Practice Exam
- Marketing and Research Accomplishments
- Specialty Certification Update
- Call for Nominations to the Board of Directors

In addition to the activities outlined above, NCTRC representatives had the opportunity to meet with the current ATRA Board of Directors and engage in a frank assessment of the status of the TR/RT profession and the need for a continued working relationship between NCTRC and ATRA. NCTRC representatives also had the opportunity to meet with specific state TR leaders to discuss potential state licensure initiatives within their respective states.

The NTRS Annual Conference was held as part of the larger NRPA Congress which attracts upwards of 7,000 park and recreation professionals from all over the United States and Canada. The NRPA/NTRS conference was held October 13th through 17th in Baltimore, Maryland. NCTRC's primary role at the conference was as an exhibitor and to advocate for TR/RT services and promote the CTRS credential. NRPA/NTRS serves as a wonderful opportunity to promote TR/RT and the CTRS credential to professionals who are most likely not working directly in TR/RT but may have direct influence in the hiring of CTRSs. The NCTRC booth was visited by hundreds of individuals seeking information about the CTRS credential and specifics about recertification. In addition to the exhibit booth, NCTRC also presented two educational sessions and attended several meetings, including the open NTRS Board Meeting.

In summary, NCTRC's attendance at the National TR/RT conferences proved to be a very valuable and worthwhile activity. Involvement at the NTRS and ATRA conferences allowed for both formal meetings and presentations but perhaps more importantly, it provided an opportunity for CTRSs and potential CTRSs to interact with NCTRC Board Members and Staff.

NCTRC Presents at the CLEAR Annual Conference

As part of its busy fall conference schedule, NCTRC attended the annual conference of the

Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR). The CLEAR Conference was held September 25th – 27th and was attended by over 400 participants representing a wide spectrum of regulatory and licensure-based organizations. NCTRC Executive Director, Bob Riley, CTRS, co-presented an educational session with Dr. Jay Breyer (Prometric Testing Services) pertaining to the NCTRC exam program. The session provided an overview of the NCTRC exam methodology and statistical findings from the last five years of offering a computerized mastery formatted exam. In addition to offering the formal presentation, there was also an opportunity to attend several sessions addressing state licensure and competency assurance, two vital areas that relate directly to current NCTRC strategic initiatives.

It's Time for the NCTRC Election

NCTRC will be conducting the 2008 Board of Directors Election online from November 3rd to December 1st, 2008. There are two (2) available positions to be filled via this year's election. The following four (4) individuals serve as the slate of candidates for consideration:

Teresa M. Beck, CTRS
Maridith A. Curfman-Janssen, CTRS
Sean H. Gartland, CTRS
Suzanne Melcher, CTRS

Please take the time to exercise your right to vote!

Login to [MY NCTRC LOGIN](#) and click "Vote Online". You will be able to review information about each of the candidates by clicking "Candidate Information". Once you have selected your two candidates, complete the ballot and submit it directly to NCTRC. All e-ballots will be sent anonymously to NCTRC.

If you have any problems with the election process, please contact NCTRC at (845) 639-1439.

Did you know ...

- You can download all of NCTRC's marketing brochures by clicking on [Standards and Publications](#) or contact the office and we will be happy to mail some to you.
- You can find a list of colleges and universities that have TR programs on the Therapeutic Recreation Directory website.
- You can verify the certification status of a CTRS by clicking [Online Verification](#) on the NCTRC website.

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

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