



NRAA Newsletter

NATIONAL REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION ASSOCIATION

Summer 2001

President's Message

Christopher Smith

Dear Members...

Our Association is facing many challenges, not the least of which is the diminishing number of you (members). In these times of change, your Board has recognized the need for not only the Association to change, but also the Board to change. We must alter our "standard operating procedures." Therefore, during 2001, the Association Board has decided to replace it's annual "mid-year" Board meeting with a monthly telephone conference meeting. Not only does this plan allow budget dollars to be shifted into line items more beneficial to members, but it also keeps the Board focused on target goals throughout the year.

In concert with the Newsletter Editor, the goals set by the Board during it's monthly meetings, discussion regarding those goals, plans made to address the goals, and decisions made during the meetings will be provided to you throughout this year. In addition, through the talents and dedication of Evan Jones, the NRAA Board will also keep you abreast of activities through the Association's web site (<http://www.rehabadmin.org/>).

Even with these communication tools, it is more important than ever before in our history, that members attend the annual conference October 31, 2001- November 4, 2001, at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino, Biloxi, Mississippi. WE need to reshape NRAA. WE in capitals meaning that each of YOU need to actively help us, your Board, design an Association that meets your personal and professional needs. Input is welcome anytime, but will be specifically solicited in Biloxi.

Your Board is actively discussing issues that will change the way the Association operates:

• **Belen Burkhalter (President-elect)** is leading a dialogue with the Board and "NRAOne", NRA's group of elected division officials, regarding how finances will be handled in the reorganized Association.

• **Joe Lechowicz (Northeast Regional Representative)** has been conducting a survey of graduate students regarding their perceptions of Association affiliation.

• **Dale Sattler (Great Plains Regional Representative)** is assisting

the Board as it addresses the need to restructure the Board to better

meet member needs and fiscal realities.

• **Bill Burnside (NRAA Representative to the NRA Board)** along with Evan Jones and Dale Sattler, have been addressing the possibility of including "Leadership" in the name of the Association.

• **Lynn Boza (Great Lakes Regional Representative)** is investigating the establishment of a "home office" for NRAA to provide records continuity and long-term leadership support.

• **Neil Scully (Treasurer)** is assisting the President in seeking a way to secure a perpetual future for our endowed

awards that will keep their NRAA and namesake identities, as well as their underpinning funds, intact.

I also ask members to send congratulations to Glen Peterson (glen.peterson@mnsu.edu) who was selected by the Board as the NRAA Switzer Scholar nominee. By congratulating him in this manner, not only will you be able to recognize Dr. Peterson for his past years of service to the Association and to the field of rehabilitation administration, but you will also be able to provide the Association with your email address. As our Association changes, we seek to better use the tools of technology to provide you with high quality information quickly.

Many thanks to retiring, long time Newsletter Editor Paul Ornberg. Your many years of service to NRAA in this capacity (and others) are greatly appreciated. I invite all NRAA members to welcome Glen Peterson and Ray Feroz as Co-Editors for this important communication tool. The Board and I applaud your first edition and look forward to many more!

Thank You Paul

On behalf of the NRAA membership, it is a pleasure for the new Editors to offer a resounding and heartfelt "thank you!" to Paul Ornberg and to the staff and consumers at the Employment and Training Center in Fargo, North Dakota. For nearly ten years Paul has served as Editor while his staff and consumers have volunteered to do all of the production, preparation, and mailing of the NRAA Newsletter. As Paul begins to consider retirement and is looking at possibly relocating, his time and his efforts require redirection. Paul's hard work, sense of humor, and ability to get the job done will continue to serve as guiding qualities in the producing of this publication. We will endeavor to sustain and to build upon the many accomplishments of Paul's work as Editor.

As we take over as NRAA Newsletter Editors, we would like to invite and encourage input from NRAA members. Your suggestions of things that you would like to have included in the Newsletter will be acted upon to the best of our ability. We would particularly like to encourage members to offer submissions of information that you would like to share with other members. This might include discussion of activities in your regional or state units, unique or interesting programs and services for consumers, opinions on points of controversy, requests for information or ideas on challenging situations, etc. Please share your ideas as to how this Newsletter can better serve your needs and interests.

~Glen Peterson and Ray Feroz, Co-Editors

***NRAA Participation
in
NRA ONE Dialogue***

As all NRA and NRAA members know by now, the decision to restructure NRA has been made. Former NRA President Linda Winslow is facilitating and moving forward the process of planning the restructuring effort which is referred to as NRA ONE. NRAA is well represented in the NRA ONE dialogue by President, Chris Smith; President-elect, Belen Burkhalter; and Representative to the NRA Board, Bill Burnside. A topic that has been substantially dealt with at this early point in the NRA ONE process is the topic of separate accounts and budgets for divisions, such as NRAA. This topic has been a point of discussion and concern for the NRAA Board of Directors, due to NRAA maintaining several dedicated accounts for grants and awards. We are pleased to see the strong support in the NRA ONE discussions for finding appropriate means to allow divisions to maintain separate accounts once restructuring (and dissolution of incorporation of divisions) is completed. We strongly encourage the NRA ONE participants to continue to support the idea of separate accounts that divisions can dedicate for specific use that is consistent with the mission of NRA and of the division.

NRAA members are strongly encouraged to share your ideas and concerns regarding restructuring of NRA with your NRA ONE representatives listed above.

***TTWWIA Advisory Panel
Web-Site***

The Social Security Administration's Advisory Panel on the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act (TTWWIA) has announced the establishment of a web site where the Advisory Panel's progress and other information related to implementation will be posted. Among other things, the web site will be a source for information regarding becoming an "Employment Network" (EN) or employment services provider under the Ticket to Work. The web address is WWW.SSA.GOV/WORK/PANEL and the site is open or will be open soon.

***NRAA Year 2000 Final Budget,
Approved 2001 Budget, and 2001 Budget - Year To Date***

	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2001 Budget
OPERATING INCOME	<i>12/31/00</i>	<i>6/30/01</i>	
Dues	\$13,168	\$6,228	\$12,000
NRA Rebate	\$732	\$308	\$500
Training	\$2,052	\$0	\$0
Interest	\$111	\$410	\$900
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$16,063	\$6,946	\$13,400
OPERATING EXPENSE			
Memberships:			
Mailing, Printing	\$84		\$100
Travel	\$600		\$600
Subtotal, Memberships	\$684		\$700
Board of Directors:			
Board Meetings	\$6,158		\$7,200
Board Teleconferences			\$2,000
Subtotal, Board	\$6,158		\$9,200
Grants:			
Regional	\$0		\$0
State	\$558		\$1,000
Subtotal, Grants	\$558		\$1,000
Awards:			
Un-endowed Awards	\$119		\$125
Subtotal, Awards	\$119		\$125
National Conference:			
Hotel & Speakers	\$195		\$200
Subtotal, Conference	\$195		\$200
Publications:			
Newsletter	\$1,137		\$1,200
Journal	\$0		\$2,625
Travel	\$842		\$600
Subtotal, Publications	\$1,979		\$4,425
Special Projects:			
NRAA Rep To NRA	\$300		\$300
Training	\$1,283		\$0
NRAA Web	\$119		\$200
Switzer Memorial	\$1,100	\$500	\$500
Subtotal, Special Projects	\$2,802	\$500	\$1,000
Other Expense			
Audit	\$200	\$200	\$200
Office Operations	\$0	(\$0)	\$50
Subtotal, Other	\$200	\$200	\$250
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$12,695	\$700	\$16,900
FUND BAL CHANGE	\$3,368	\$6,247	(\$3,500)
NON OPERATING INCOME			
Restricted Interest	\$923	\$795	\$700
NON OPERATING EXPENSE			
Endowed Awards	\$0		\$0
CHANGE IN EQUITY	\$4,291	\$7,042	(\$2,800)

Call for Nominations

NRAA is seeking nominations of interested members who would like to serve in key positions on the NRAA Board of Directors. The following Board positions will be filled by election with terms to begin on January 1, 2002:

- President-elect (1 year term)
- Secretary (2 year term)
- Representative to the NRA Board (3 year term)
- Regional Representatives to the NRAA Board (2 year terms) from:
 - Northeast Region
 - Southeast Region
 - Great Plains Region
 - Pacific Region

Nominations are encouraged from members who would like to be involved in current efforts to revitalize NRAA including efforts to expand and enhance membership benefits. Previous experience in elected office is not nearly as relevant as enthusiasm and commitment. Nominations can come from the nominee or from any NRAA member. Willingness to serve will be confirmed from all nominees, and geographic location will be confirmed from nominees for regional representatives.

Nominations can be made by e-mail, telephone, or in writing to Immediate Past-President Glen Peterson at the addresses or phone number in the Board of Director listing in this Newsletter. Election ballots will be included in the Fall NRAA Newsletter, with results announced in December, 2001. For any additional information please contact Glen Peterson.

Switzer Memorial Seminar

The NRAA Board voted in its June, 2001 meeting to once again be a contributing co-sponsor of the Mary E. Switzer Memorial Seminar in 2002, as we have over the last several years. As a contributing co-sponsor of the year 1999 Switzer Memorial Seminar, NRAA now has two copies of the document that has been produced through the study and writings of the Switzer Scholars who participated in 1999, including Bruce Crump who was NRAA President at the time. The document was published in July, 2000 and is titled Disability Policy; Issues and Implications for the New Millennium. It is available to be borrowed by NRAA members by contacting Glen Peterson at the phone number or e-mail address provided in the listing of the NRAA Board of Directors in the Newsletter.

2001 Board of Directors

Officers

President:

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Secretary:

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Past President:

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Treasurer:

Neil Scully
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Representative to the NRA Board:

Bill Burnside
7411 Alban Station Ct., Suite B-255
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Regional Representatives

Northeast:

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The **NRAA Newsletter** is an official publication of the National Rehabilitation Administration Association (NRAA), a Professional Division of the National Rehabilitation Association.

It is widely accepted that the practices and skills of administration, management, and supervision of the rehabilitation process are virtually related to that process. NRAA has been organized to develop, improve, and strengthen rehabilitation organizations. It exists to promote the highest administrative and supervisory ethical practices.

The **NRAA Newsletter** is published three times a year: Spring, Summer and Fall. Deadlines for submission of material for the **NRAA Newsletter** are: March 30, July 30 and October 30 of each year.

Editors:

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Annual Membership Meeting

The NRAA Annual Membership Meeting
Friday, November 2nd
Biloxi, Mississippi
in conjunction with
The NRA Annual Training Conference

The conference, which is hosted by the Mississippi Rehabilitation Association is scheduled to include the Friday afternoon timeframe for Division Showcase activities. It will be during this portion of the conference schedule that the membership meeting will be conducted. Exact times will be forthcoming in the next NRAA Newsletter. As always, NRAA members are strongly encouraged to attend the membership

meeting in order to discuss organizational activities and plans, ask questions of Board members, and to offer input and suggestions. If you are unable to attend the membership meeting, please communicate your questions, suggestions, or other input to your regional representative or to any of the members of the Board of Directors listed in the Newsletter.

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