

Volume 1, Issue 4

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Alabama Society for Respiratory Care

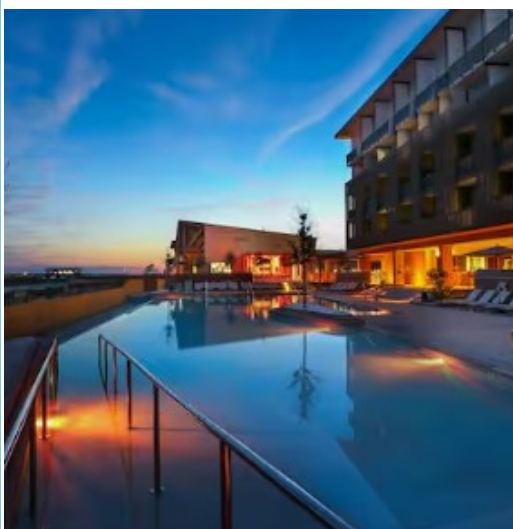
Come with us to the Beach!

We are back to a beach front location after 15 years, so join us for professional development, fellowship and great fun!

Don't miss out on 12 live CEs in addition to our annual award and scholarship presentations.

You will also have time with vendors to learn about new products and visit with your favorite sales representatives!

Our 2023 Annual Meeting and Exhibit will be April 19-21 in Orange Beach, AL at The Lodge at Gulf Coast State Park. We look forward to seeing you there!



GULF SHORES &
ORANGE BEACH
TOURISM

Alabama's White-Sand Beaches

Alabama Society for Respiratory Care: Annual Meeting & Exhibits

April 19 - 21, 2023

Website:
alsrc.org

REGISTER NOW

HOSA State Leadership Conference

In March, the ASRC was able to participate at the HOSA State Leadership Conference in Montgomery, AL.

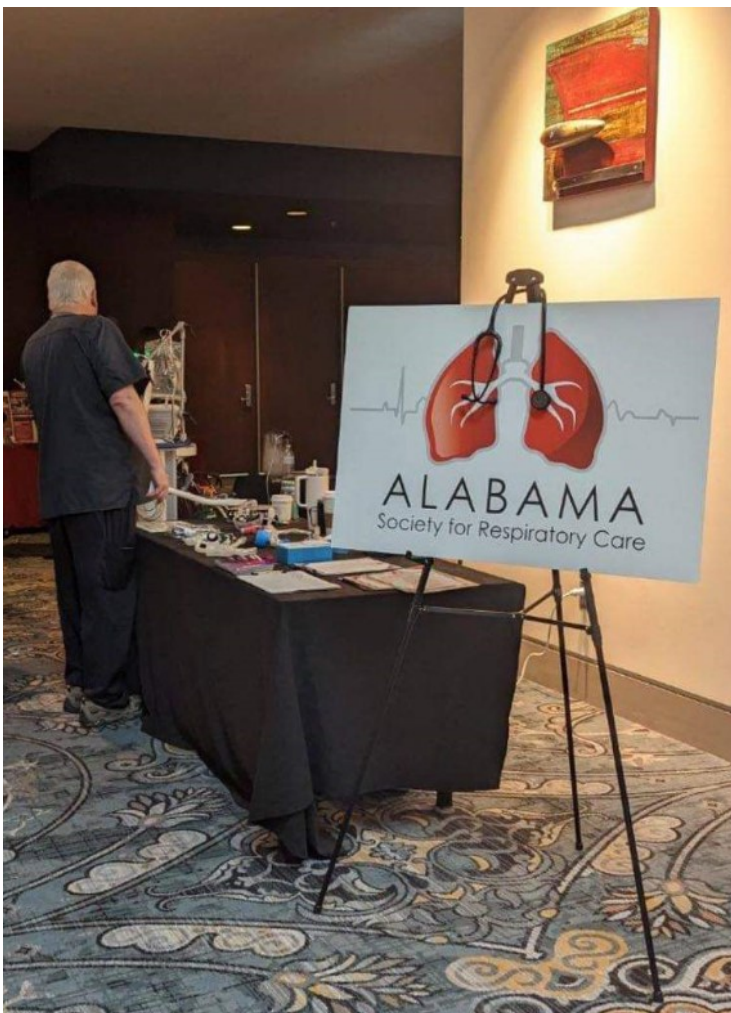
ASRC volunteers were able to share information about the Respiratory Therapy profession to HS students from throughout the state as well as their instructors and teachers.

HOSA– Future Health Professionals is a global student-led organization, whose mission is to promote career opportunities in the health industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. The Alabama HOSA State Leadership Conference brings together nearly 2,000 of Alabama's best Future Health Professionals.

Thank you to ASRC members Robert Johnson, Jerrod Isbell, Jabril Cooper-Diamond, Meghan Crumpton and the other volunteers who helped make this opportunity a success.



Learn more about HOSA at hosa.org or alabamahosa.org



ASRC at the World of Works in Oxford, AL

ASRC East Central District Rep. Chris Carr led a team of volunteers including hospital staff and JSU students.

World of Works is an event which brings together over 8,000 students to be introduced to careers they could pursue after graduating high school. Many are uncertain about what direction to take and it allows opportunities for students to branch out network with professionals in different careers.

Volunteers had the opportunity to engage and share what Respiratory Therapists do and how a career in Respiratory could be exactly what they are looking for. What an awesome time!



Student Updates

We have several new RT programs being developed in our state! More to come on this soon, but University of North Alabama, Coastal Community College, University of North Alabama, and Calhoun Community College are working to increase the opportunities for a Respiratory Care education in Alabama.

Congratulations to the Jefferson State Community College December 2022 Graduation Class! 88% of the class has hit the high cut score on the TMC exam and 6 of them are now RRTs. Way to go!

WSCC junior and senior students have participated in many multidisciplinary simulations with Nursing, EMS, Diagnostic Imaging, Medical Assisting, Medical Laboratory Technician, and Dental Assisting students to hone their clinical and communication skills by treating simulated patients suffering from chest pain, asthma attacks, overdoses and more. Seniors were able to strengthen their intubation, ventilator, and ACLS skills during Code Simulations. Also, WSCC seniors are getting ready for exams by attending a Kettering seminar and hosting a Lindsey Jones seminar April 12-14th. See pictures on pages 6&7.



ASRC WEBSITE UPDATE

The ASRC website has been updated to include a student section with information on becoming a Respiratory Therapist and a link to the [AARC Be An RT site](#).

There is also a list of Colleges and Universities in Alabama which offer a Respiratory Program which includes contact information and links for each institution.

Check it out [here](#).



Student Update Continued...



WCC students, in February, participated in the Southeast Alabama WOW event with a display explaining and demonstrating the proper procedure for intubation. This event hopes to impact the future workforce of the wiregrass and particularly raise interest in Respiratory Care.



Congratulations LaTrisha Brown RRT! Respiratory Therapy graduate from Trenholm State Community College's second cohort class! LaTrisha successfully earned her AAS degree in Respiratory Therapy in August 2022; Super proud of her hard work and dedication to our profession.

*They may forget your name ,
but they will never forget how
you made them feel.*

- Maya Angelou

Student Update Continued...



WSCC students at the most recent ASRC Student Symposium



WSCC students have participated in several career fairs over the last few months educating middle and high school students about the Respiratory Therapy profession

Student Update Continued...



WSCC Career Fair Continued...



Tuesday Talks

Tuesday Talks are offered the 2nd Tuesday of almost every month and cover a range of topics. Register [here](#).

Upcoming events:

May 9 - Asthma

June 13 - Managers, Directors and Leaders

July 11 - Sleep

August 8 - PFT

September 12 - Asthma

October 10 - Managers, Directors and Leaders

December 12 - COPD

Student Update Continued...



The Shelton State Association for Respiratory Care of Students (SSARCS) Class of 2023 participated in the American Heart Association "Tuscaloosa Heart Walk" in March.



National Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week

National Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week is March 12-18, 2023. It was established by the American Association for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR). The AACVPR is celebrating this year by offering a free webinar and live Q&A on March 14th.

The AACVPR in partnership with the AACVPR developed the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Reimbursement Toolkit with an aim at improving reimbursement for pulmonary services. It also gives hospital-based providers tools, insights, and resources regarding PR billing and changes. Find out more information and register [here](#).

FREE WEBINAR!

**IMPROVE REIMBURSEMENT
FOR PULMONARY REHAB -
WHAT THE TOOLKIT DOES FOR YOU!**

Speaker: Debbie Koehl

March 14, 2023 • 1:00 p.m. CST

ASBRT: 2023 Renewal Year

It's a renewal year. Are you ready?

Respiratory Therapy licensees have to meet continuing education requirements in order to maintain their licenses with the Alabama State Board of Respiratory Therapy. The Board has partnered with CE Broker to provide a comprehensive resource for logging and reporting your continuing education credits. Please register to begin taking advantage of this new service. Activation of a CE Broker

Account and successful reporting of credits is a mandatory requirement for license renewal, so don't wait. .

Don't forget, RTs are required to complete 24 contact hours of CEs during the 2 year licensure period with no more than 12 of those being non-traditional or self-study.

You can visit the [ASBRT](https://www.asbirt.org) website for more information.

[Save the Date!!]

June 8th ASRC Mini-Conference in Montgomery registration is open!
Information on a Sept. 29th Birmingham conference coming soon!

ASRC Political Action Committee Representatives

The ASRC Board has approved Courtney Bates, Christy Goodwin, and Megan Crumpton as the PACT Representatives for 2023-2024.

PACT representatives must be knowledgeable and have a desire to advocate for Respiratory Care to all levels of government.

Our new PACT Representatives will be working diligently with the ASRC and AARC to advocate for all of us!



The ASRC would like to honor those we have lost since our last conference. Please email the name and information of any RTs active or retired you would like honored with a moment of memorial to alsrc@gmail.com

ASRC Board Member Highlight: Bob Crumpton RRT



What started your path to Respiratory Therapy?

I landed in respiratory therapy by a stroke of luck. I toured a hospital to check out different professions and spoke with the directors of radiology, physical therapy, occupational therapy and respiratory. Not only did I find respiratory the most interesting, the director offered me a job and a scholarship to go to UAB. I think it was actually fate.

What is your favorite thing about your career?

I've been a RT for 36 years. My favorite parts have changed as my career has progressed. When I was just starting out, I found the fast-paced excitement of the emergency room to be my favorite. As an experienced staff RT, it became not only the excitement of critical care, but also the relationships built with long term patients. As a director, my favorite part is getting to see RTs that had me as a preceptor, or RTs that worked for me, go on to do outstanding things. Some have become leaders, and some have become educators. It's really nice to think that maybe I played a small part.

Has anyone impacted your career in a meaningful way and how?

What is your favorite part of being on the ASRC board?

Getting to meet respiratory therapists from all over the state and working with them to advance our profession. The board has a very diverse background. There are RTs that are staff therapists, sales representatives, educators and de-

ASRC BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

This Quarter we are highlighting Bob Crumpton and Christy Smith who represent parts of Southern Alabama. We hope you enjoy getting to know your representatives!

partment leadership. Everyone has a different perspective, and we work so well together

How do you feel about the trajectory of the Respiratory Care Profession?

I think the role of the RT will be ever expanding. We have shown over the last few years how we can impact the healthcare team. I believe everyone, from the healthcare workers to the community at large, are starting to better understand the value we provide.

What is your favorite hobby?

Fishing and Alabama football. These are two keys to a well-lived life.

ASRC Board Member Highlight: Christy Smith B.S., RRT

What is your favorite thing about your career?

I am thankful that I am a respiratory therapist because I have gotten to work in so many environments, such as the NICU, ER, PFTs, specialty bronchoscopy, education, transport NICU/adult, the OR, etc., with both adults and kids, and can't imagine another career with that many varieties of practice. As a RT I get the privilege of witnessing miracles each day. I am again thankful to be an RT because I feel throughout the years I have made a difference. I also had the opportunity to meet and work with some of the best and most interesting and intelligent RTs ever!

Has anyone impacted your career in a meaningful way and how?

Everyone we meet during our brief journey on Earth has some impact on us. It starts with our parents—they have the biggest impact, one that is hard to overcome. I honestly think it would not be fair to give All credit to a single person only. I learned so much at my previous job. We had an excellent and diverse

team in the workplace and led many constructive conflicts. Feedback flew freely in all directions, which helped me to identify areas for improvement in my work, and to become much better in what I do. But there is one person that pushed me to exceed in my career (Serrell Taylor). The entire experience, the great team (Baptist South Hospital/A-Team) we had, impacted me in this way.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

Human life is an unpredictable journey. We travel from successes to failures/failures to successes while we try to find our place in the world and pursue our personal happiness. As for my PROUD-EST/GREATEST accomplishments being so far, I am most proud of earning my bachelor's degree (Biology), & associate degree (Respiratory). Also being honored as employee of the quarter and employee of the year (2020). But, speaking honestly, I consider it just as a start of my journey, not an end. I hope to achieve many other things, as a manager and as a woman, mother, daughter, and in any other roles I may have in my life. I love setting



goals and pursue them with my work, dedication, enthusiasm.

What is your favorite hobby?

Travelling is one of those few activities that has a kind of reset button in our lives. You go away for a few days or weeks and come back fresh and ready to take on challenges of life head on. Travelling to many places is a matter of convenience, rather than a recreation activity. Traveling is also not for escapist, as many people tend to believe. I used the word 'escapist' not in the literary sense of the word, but rather to mean people who run away from their problems. Travelling is a hobby like any other.



President's Corner

As we are finishing the final plans for our 2023 ASRC Annual Conference and Exhibits, your ASRC Board of Directors have been working hard to support you. We have been busy on several different fronts. We have adopted the AARC's strategic goals of Elevate, Engage, Advocate, and Educate. Here are some things we have been working on for you:

- Educate - this has been our comfort zone for a long time. We have put together a great conference for 2023, with many new speakers we have not had involved in the past!
 - Our Tuesday Talks have helped several get "live" or traditional CEUs/CRCs without having to travel - these have also helped cover the "hard to get topics" for those specialty credentials - NPS, PFT, ACCS, etc.
 - We have more mini conferences planned for later in the year
 - We are working on more educational opportunities still to come
- Advocate - we have revitalized our Political Action Committee to better represent RTs at the state and national levels. We have great volunteers that have agreed to help represent us at upcoming legislative sessions. This will include recommending changes to our licensure law needed for the ASBRT board to better serve the licensees, while protecting the patients of Alabama.
- Engage - we have worked harder to engage members and lapsed members through more communications. We are working on more ideas to keep membership engaged and ensure that we are helping move your profession forward based on interests that you have shared.
- Elevate - we have begun a project to help elevate the value of the profession for future students. Recently, board members took place in the 2023 Alabama HOSA Leadership Conference to introduce RT as a profession choice for high school students. In addition, we have had board members work at their local WOW Events that also introduces our profession as a choice of careers for high schools students. These are steps to help develop future members of our workforce.

We are truly working hard to do what you elected us to do - Elevate, Engage, Advocate, and Educate for our profession. We take this charge seriously and we are looking for more volunteers to help us continue to move forward. If you are interested in helping, please email us and let us know at alsrcinfo@gmail.com.

As always, thank you for all that you do! You save lives every day! You are a valuable part of the healthcare team! We are proud to be chosen to represent you.

Thanks,
Ed

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