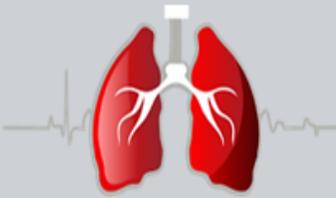


Volume 1, Issue 2

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Alabama Society for Respiratory Care

Gain Confidence with a Mini-Conference



ASRC Huntsville Conference (above)

The ASRC recent Mini Conferences in Birmingham and Huntsville were a hit! These events offered live CEUs approved by the AARC and covered a range of topics. Thank you to everyone who attended! If you were unable to attend, don't worry! We will be providing more CEU opportunities and have a great Annual Meeting planned. Please join us April 19-21, 2023 at The Lodge at Gulf State Park. This new location is inside the 6,150 acre Gulf State Park. We hope to see you there!



ASRC Birmingham Conference (above and below)



Let the Good Times Roll!

Join us Nov. 9–12 in New Orleans, LA, for our annual Congress event, bringing respiratory therapists from across the globe together for learning, connecting, and getting a glimpse of the latest industry trends.

Designed for respiratory therapists of all levels and specialties, Congress will focus on the topics, tools, and skills to enhance your career.

Spread across four days, Congress includes 139 sessions filled with specially designed lectures, symposiums, networking events, research presentations, and exhibit hall browsing.

The last in-person Congress event was in New Orleans, and we're excited to get

back there and meet up with you. See you soon!

We Can't Wait to See You....Actually!

For this year's annual AARC Congress we're back live and in-person in New Orleans, LA on Nov. 9-12. We want Alabama to have a HUGE representation of RTs. Will you join us?

Registration for Congress 2022 is open and, as our state society member, you're eligible for a discount when you check out.

USE THIS PROMO CODE FOR YOUR STATE DISCOUNT: AL5OFF

Register Today! www.aarc.org/aarc-meetings/congress-2022/registration.php

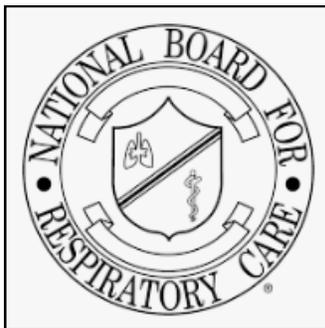


You can also save money by booking your hotel reservations through the AARC, who has reserved rooms at a discounted rate. Go to www.mcisemi.com/aarc2022/ to look at room rates.

NBRC Updates

At its Apr. 9, 2022 meeting, the NBRC Board of Trustees voted to make a significant change to the examination system for the CRT and RRT credentials which will be implemented Jan. 2027. This change aligns with the Board's long-range goals to streamline the transition from graduation to entry into practice.

The NBRC will shift to a single multiple-choice examination, eliminating the CSE, designed to cover the breadth of knowledge and depth of clinical judgment needed to document the competencies of respiratory therapists who achieve CRT and RRT credentials in the future. The new examination will be called the Respiratory Therapy Examination and will have two cut scores. Individuals



achieving the low cut score earn the CRT credential and those who achieve the high cut score earn the RRT credential.

The exam will have 160 scored multiple choice questions. The time limit will be 4 hours; administered in 2-hour sessions

with a 10-minute break between sessions. The cost of the exam will be \$325 for the first attempt and \$225 for each additional attempt.

If you passed the TMC at the high cut score before Dec. 31, 2026 but have not successfully completed the CSE, it will be available through Dec. 31, 2027. Alternatively, individuals may also take the new exam and pass at the high cut score to earn the RRT credential after Jan. 1, 2027.

Please visit www.nbrc.org/examination-changes-coming-in-2027-new-details-added for more information.



Lets Celebrate!

Celebrate Respiratory Care Week 2022 (Oct. 23–29) and let your community, patients, and colleagues know how vital you are to patient care. Stay connected by including #RCWEEK22 on your comments and posts.

What did you do for Respiratory Care Week? AARC wants to know! You can submit your stories and photos via <https://www.aarc.org/resources/programs-projects/respiratory-care-week-share-story/>

Sign up for CE Broker beginning Oct. 3, 2022!

CE Broker is the official CE tracking system of the Alabama State Board of Respiratory Therapy. You will never have to pay for a CE Broker Basic Account. However, licensees do have the option to subscribe to an upgraded account, which offers additional CE tracking tools.

To activate your free CE Broker account, visit <https://cebroker.com/al/account/basic/> and enter your license number and follow the steps. If you already have a CE Broker account your steps will be different.

The CE Broker Course Search helps you find every course you need to complete your license renewal. Any courses with the “Take it Here” tag will be instantly reported to your account and appear in your Course History. To find courses, visit <https://courses.cebroker.com/search/al> and select your profession.

CE Broker’s provides dedicated support 8AM-8PM ET Monday–Friday with a team of experts trained on the rules and regulations of the Alabama State Board of Respiratory Therapy. You can reach

them by phone at 877-434-6323 or via email and live chat.

CE Broker is beneficial to us in many ways. You will be able to track and know precisely how many hours you’ve completed and how many hours are remaining. There are also convenience features like a personalized transcript and a personal account manager. Also, bring CE compliance wherever you go with the CE Broker mobile app available on iPhone and Android from the App Store or Google Play.

AARC Activates Disaster Relief

The AARC Disaster Relief Fund was launched in 1992 to assist members who suffer damage to their homes or other personal property as a result of federally declared natural disasters.

AARC members living in officially declared disaster areas may apply for a grant of up to \$1,000, either online or by mail using the AARC downloadable application form found at <https://www.aarc.org/aarc-membership/aarc-membership-benefits/aarc-disaster-relief-fund/>.

We ask that if you know of a fellow member who has been affected, please relay this message to them, as they may not have access to the internet.

The fund is all about AARC members helping members.

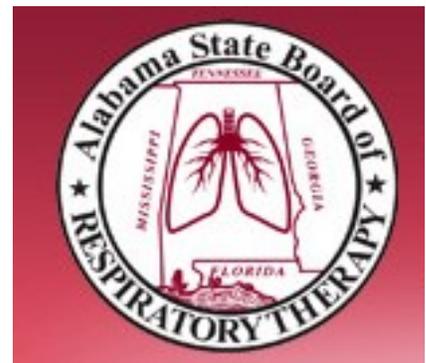
If you would like to contribute to the AARC’s Disaster Relief Fund, donate online at <https://my.aarc.org/Donate>



ASBRT Updates

The next ASBRT Board Meeting will be Dec. 2, 2022. You can attend these meetings scheduled for 10:00 am at the Bailey Building 4th floor conference room . The Bailey Building is at 400 S Union St, Montgomery, Al 36104.

Please see the above article regarding the introduction of CE Broker for CE tracking for future license renewal.



Student Updates

We are starting to see our newly accepted students start their clinical rotations throughout the state. Please welcome these students with open arms; they are the future of our profession. Help them learn and grow into the coworkers they will become.

JSU recently accepted 28 students into their Class of 2024 and currently have 27 students in the Class of 2023. The Class of 2023 is working on ventilation strategies, neonatal and pediatrics, and pulmonary diagnostics. Also, the JSU Nursing and Athletic Training programs are looking forward to joining the Respiratory program in the JSU South Complex once construction is completed by summer 2023.

WCC currently has 18 first-year and 9 second-year students, who are preparing to participate in the upcoming Sputum Bowl. The Respiratory Therapist Association for Better Breathers (RTABB) has adopted 3 children with Cystic Fibrosis

and try to brighten their day throughout the year and especially during Christmas and on Birthdays. The RTABB has raised a total of \$981 from their last event to help support their activities.

SSCC currently has 23 seniors and 21 freshmen enrolled in the Respiratory Therapy Program. The SSARCS is currently volunteering to work the Alabama home football games concession stands to help raise donations for Camp WheezeAway. They are also collecting canned goods to donate to the Tuscaloosa Community Soup Bowl Kitchen and socks to donate to a local nursing home. Notably, three of the senior class students have been awarded the Alabama Power HBCU Grant Scholarship.

JSCC have 17 students graduating in December and the newest cohort has 28 students.

TSCC currently has 8 students graduating in August 2023 and are currently



SSCC Volunteers Ashley Jones and Shantavia Turner

working on Neonatal and Mechanical Ventilation. Notably, 7 of the 10 August 2022 graduates have already passed their CRT certification exam!

SSCC Alabama Power HBCU Grant Scholarship Recipients



Faith Hardy



Harley Collier



Maresha Lacy

**RESPIRATORY
THERAPIST**

LOADING...



IN PROGRESS

ASRC Board Member Highlight

We will start highlighting members from the ASRC Board in each newsletter. We hope you enjoy getting to know your representatives!

This Quarter we are highlighting Ronda Hood who holds the ASBRT license #1 and Chris Carr who is one of the newest members to the ASRC board as a East Central District Representative.

ASRC Board Member Highlight: Ronda Hood, LRT, RRT, CPFT, CHEPP, Director of Hospital Safety and Emergency Preparedness at Helen Keller Hospital

What started your path to Respiratory Therapy?

Being the eldest child out of 5, I was the first to have the opportunity to attend college and my parents worked very hard to make this possible. I was looking for a course of study that I would enjoy and that had a job at the end. Healthcare was a nature interest for me but I was just not sure about being a nurse (cleaning behinds did not appeal to me, yes I now know there is more to it). I was told about a relatively new program at UAB called “respiratory therapy” and decided to apply. I honestly had no clue what a respiratory therapist was, or did, when I started school, luckily it worked out for me!

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

The AARC has just released a new strategic plan to help move us into the future. I feel like we have to continue to grow and advance our profession. Is it going to happen today, tomorrow? No, but we have to move toward having everyone coming out of school become an RRT. It

is also going to be very important to move toward more BS programs and BS RRTs if we want to be on a professional level that CMS recognizes. There are going to be opportunities in the future to grow our profession but not if we do not prepare in advance.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

Professionally, I am very proud to have been co-chair of the ASRC Legislative Committee the year we were successful in getting the Respiratory Therapy licensure law passed. We were not “the last” but pretty close to being the last state to pass a licensure law (yep, Mississippi had already passed theirs). We were able to have a grass roots effort of RTs from all across the state contact their legislators via phone calls, visits, and letters. We made several trips to the State House in white coats and stethoscopes to lobby our legislators for the bill to be passed. I was honored to be appointed to the first licensure board by the governor and to help write the ASBRT rules that implemented the licensure law. Although not perfect, I

feel the passage and implementation of this law advanced the respiratory profession in Alabama significantly. It also helps to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Alabama against the uneducated improper administration of respiratory therapy.



ASRC Board Member Highlight: Chris Carr BSRT, RRT, RRT-NPS, Manager of Respiratory Care at NEARMC

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?

I would like to go fishing or hunting in Alaska! The Last Frontier what a wonderful day that would be!

What started your path in Respiratory Therapy?

I was first introduced to respiratory therapy while attending Jacksonville State University (JSU). Since a child, I had always wanted to do something within in the medical field; however, I was unsure of what to do. I remember like it was yesterday. I was sitting down with my advisor, and she began to talk about my options. The last option was a new program, which was getting started and it so happened the director was on campus. For the first time in my life, I met Ed Goodwin. He began to tell me all about respiratory therapy, which was quite interesting. To be honest, I do not remember much of what we talked about, but

one statement I have kept with me. Ed told me, “Respiratory therapy is not everyone, but one thing I can tell you. We don’t deal with poop, pee, or feet.” I quickly told him to sign me up!

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

The Pandemic shined a bright light upon the profession of respiratory care. I honestly do not know how to feel. There is a huge need for more respiratory therapist. Through networking and publicity, hopefully we can get more people interested in the profession.

What did you want to do when you were young?

Growing up, my dad and I every Saturday morning would wake up early and watch old westerns. I can recall characters like John Wayne, Billy the Kid, Marshal Dillon, etc. So, my life’s goal was to be a cowboy!



What is your proudest accomplishment?

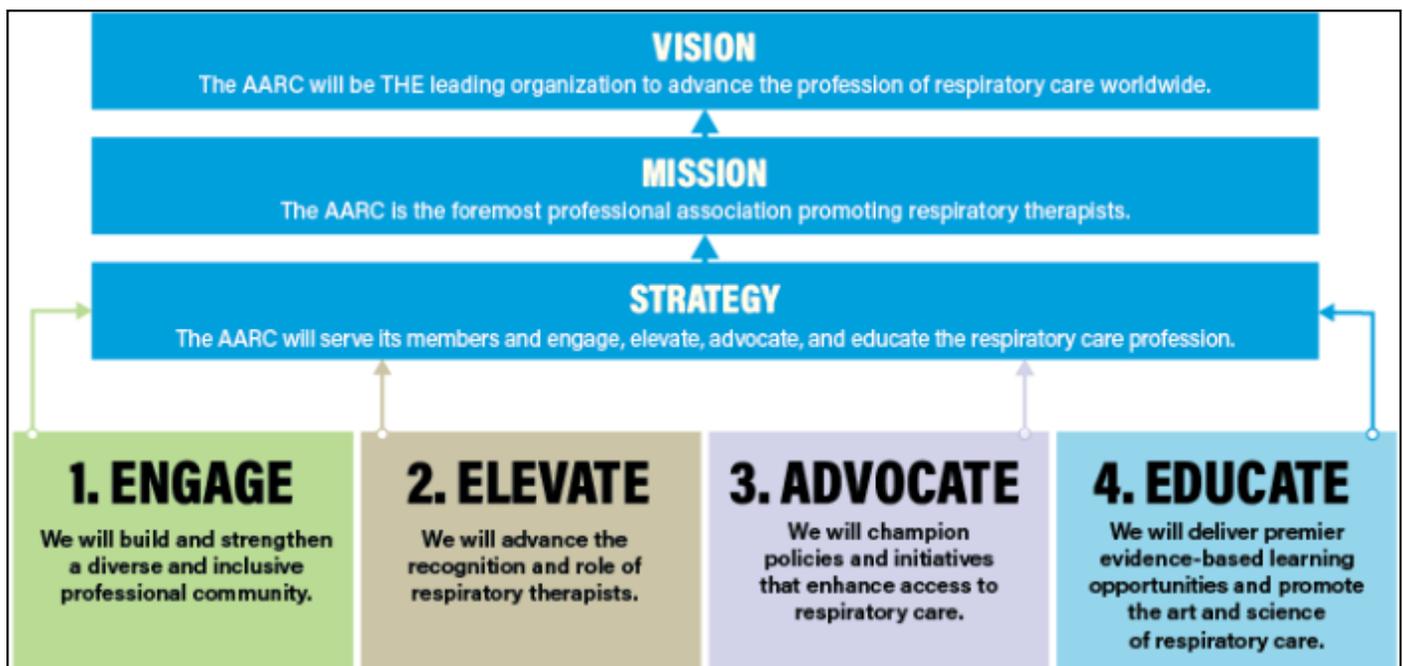
I would say my proudest accomplishment was the day I gave my heart to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In October it will be five years that I have been saved. I have not looked back sense and everyday just gets sweeter and sweeter as I walk with Jesus.

AARC Strategic Direction 2022-2025

The AARC has announced a new strategic plan to support the profession, strengthen the association, and enhance our engagement with members.

The foundation of the plan is set on the following four pathways: Engage, Elevate, Advocate, and Educate.

Please visit www.aarc.org/an22-headed-to-a-new-era-aarcs-strategic-plan-commendences/ for more information.





President's Corner

The expression "Life is like a box of chocolates" is applicable to the daily challenges of being a healthcare worker. Oftentimes we struggle with stress management and even self-compassion due to the rigors of our professional lives. Overcome compassion fatigue by remembering your WHY. Simon Sinek's theory of the Golden Circle is based on the ideas of why organizations are successful. He says "The only variables are the conditions inside the organization. That's where leadership matters, because it's the leader who sets the tone. When leaders make a choice to put the people first, remarkable things happen." The same concept can be applied to our lives as clinicians if we are to avoid compassion fatigue. Let's remember that our patients are our WHY.

"A customer is the most important visitor on our premises, he is not dependent on us. We are dependent on him. He is not an interruption in our work. He is the purpose of it. He is not an outsider in our business. He is part of it. We are not doing him a favor by serving him. He is doing us a favor by giving us an opportunity to do so."
Mahatma Gandhi

Glenn R. Pippen II, M.B.A., RRT
ASRC President; ASBRT Board Member
Director of Respiratory Care Services (Grandview)

Are you interested in joining the ASRC?

- *Please consider volunteering for a committee! ASRC Committee participation is a great way to be involved! Opportunities include: Membership, Nominations and Elections, Scholarship, Program and Education, Publications and Public relations, etc*
- *The next ASRC Board meeting is Oct 5th at TSCC in Montgomery at 10AM. It is open to the public, but RSVP is needed if any non-board member would like to attend to alsrcinfo@gmail.com*

Upcoming ASRC Events!

- *April 19-21, 2023 Save the Date!! 2023 Annual Meeting at The Lodge at Gulf State Park*
- *The ASRC will be starting a Tuesday Talks Series in December with a one-hour CEU via ZOOM on the 2nd Tuesday of each month with a variety of topics. Cost will be \$10 each and registration will be available soon*
- *Upcoming Tuesday Talks: Dec 13th Pediatrics, Jan 10th Managers, Leaders, Decision Makers, Feb 14th Neonatal, Mar 14th PFT*



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