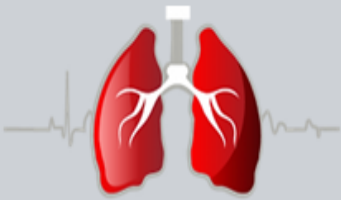


Volume 1, Issue 5

June 2023



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Alabama Society for Respiratory Care

So Much to Talk About !!



We had a great Annual conference at The Lodge at Gulf Coast State Park and had one of our largest turnouts to date with over 145 attendees and 38 vendors. Next year, we will be returning to the Orange Beach Convention Center at the Wharf. Save the date for April 8-10, 2024. We look forward to seeing you there!



TUESDAY TALKS
AARC ACCREDITED

Tuesday Talks have been very popular and we have some great news about the future of Tuesday Talks, please make sure to see the next page!



We have started a Leaders and Educators Monthly Roundtable to help leaders and educators throughout the state to network, learn about, and discuss issues and ideas that effect therapists throughout the state. Stay up-to-date with the AARConnect if you would like to participate as a leader or educator.

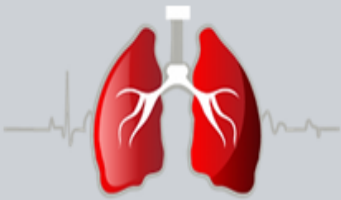
Save the Date!
Register Now!

The Montgomery Mini-Conference was a big success! If you missed out, you're in luck! We have 2 more Mini-Conferences coming up! Registration is open at alsrc.org

Please join us on:

[Aug. 31st in Huntsville](#)

[Sept. 29th in Birmingham](#)



Alabama Society for Respiratory Care

Tuesday Talks

We have some great news for the future of Tuesday Talks!

The ASRC has secured an educational grant from Avanos which will allow us to continue not only providing CEUs, but now offer them for FREE!

Tuesday Talks are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon. There is a limit of 300 participants for each session, so make sure you enroll early. Registration is available on the [ASRC website](#) or via the QR code on the attached flyer.



TUESDAY TALKS
AARC ACCREDITED



Upcoming Tuesday Talks:

July 11th: AARC Guidelines On Artificial Airway Suctioning

Hosted by Nicholas Prevo BSRT, RRT-ACCS, NPS, CPFT, AE-C

⇒ AARC clinical practice suctioning guidelines has been updated from its original 2010 publication. These updates are based on evidence-based practices from peer reviewed literature and are often viewed as the gold standard in the respiratory profession. After completion, learners will be able to discuss how the guidelines were created, understand best practices when suctioning artificial airways, and identify how new evidence factored into these recommendations.

August 8th: Biofilm in Endotracheal Tubes

Hosted by Simon Gutierrez MS, RRT, Clinical Specialist Respiratory Health, AVANOS

⇒ The course is designed to introduce or refresh clinician knowledge of the bacterial biofilm that develops and grows inside endotracheal tubes. The course explains what biofilm is and how biofilm develops. It also discusses where biofilm grows and how it becomes resistant to antibiotics. Lastly, it reviews several procedures and devices that help reduce and/or treat biofilm growth in endotracheal tubes.

September 12th: Understanding Blind Bronchoalveolar Lavage (mini-BAL)

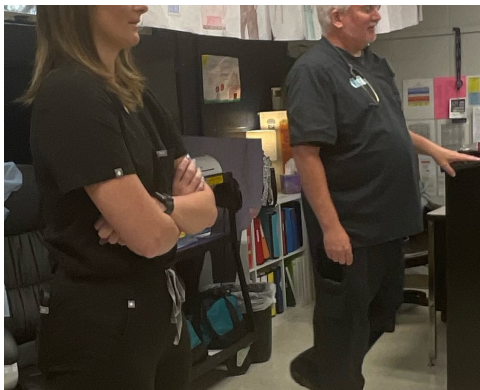
Hosted by Nicholas Prevo BSRT, RRT-ACCS, NPS, CPFT, AE-C

⇒ This course discusses the various methods used in the diagnosis of VAP, identifying the advantages and disadvantages of each approach. In addition, the recently introduced Blind Bronchoalveolar Lavage (mini-BAL) method is described in detail.

Stay tuned for more to come!

HS Students and Respiratory Therapy

Courtney Bates and Emily Danzey from Children's of Alabama and Robert Johnson from UAB were able to speak with High School students at Shelby County Career Technical Education Center about Respiratory Therapy.



BEE the One to Make a Difference

Molli Evens, the Director of Respiratory Therapy at Athens-Limestone Hospital, is making a difference by ensuring ancillary staff are recognized for their contributions to the Healthcare team.

Molli noticed that her hospital had a Daisy Award for nursing, but there was not a similar award for ancillary staff.

About starting the award, Molli said, "I started researching, and found an award called the "BEE". It stood for Beyond Exceptional Expectations, and was given

to a deserving caregiver each month. At Athens-Limestone we use the BEE award every month to recognize any of the ancillary staff who are nominated and voted on by their peers. "

And in describing the award she said, "just as the DAISY cannot survive without the BEE, nurses cannot survive without the outstanding teamwork of other healthcare professionals. A BEE the Difference Award nominee is a reflection of the Athens-Limestone Hospital mission, vision and values. They are compassion-

ate, caring, and innovative, always put safety first, promote teamwork, communicate effectively and respected by their peers. Patients, visitors, physicians and employees may nominate a deserving caregiver. We also use a "Bee The Difference" recognition program through our service excellence department, where staff members can recognize each other for outstanding work."

Pictures are of the Athens-Limestone Therapists receiving "Bee The Difference" recognition.



(left to right) Molli Evens, Judy Moore, Blakelynn Holladay, Trudy Turney, Pam Tank, Frances Gomez



Bailey Urban



Frances Gomez



Melanie Roaden and Judy Moore



Trina Ulrich and Molli Evens

Student Updates

Shelton State Community College Respiratory Therapy Class of 2023 students were awarded a \$1,000 NBRC Scholarship for their academic performance and having the highest GPA in their class. Pictured on the right from left to right: Ireanna Hunt, Hannah Littlepage, Abigail Littlepage, Kaelyn Stines, & Devin Rainer.

Shelton State students received academic honors and awards at the Shelton State Annual Honors Convocation on April 30, 2023. Pictured below left photo: (left to right) Ireanna Hunt, Savannah Jones, Kaelyn Stines, & Devin Rainer with Program Director Riva McAlpine. Pictured below right photo: Elizabeth Cannon with Program Director Riva McAlpine

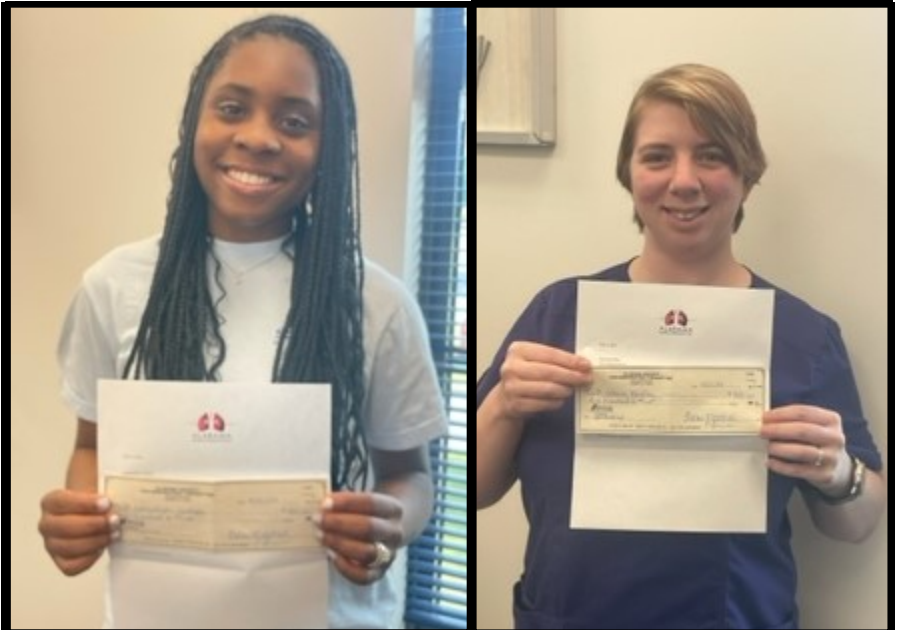


Student Update Continued...

Wallace Community College in Dothan Respiratory Therapist Graduates of May 2023 have all passed their board exam with 5 achieving the RRT credential and 2 with the CRT credential. So proud and way to go!



Trenholm State Community College Summer of 2022 class graduate Shilayla Hammonds passed her board exams and is now officially an RRT! Congratulations!



WCC students Nehemiah Jackson (pictured on the left) and Jessica Bradley (pictured on the right) received a \$500 scholarship for their academic status and contribution to their community and profession from the ASRC.

Trenholm State Community College senior class participated in Camp Wheeze in May 2023.



Student Update Continued...

Trenholm State Community College participated in the Brewbaker Middle School career fair day in April 2023.



Student Update Continued...



WSCC Class of 2023! 25 graduates have passed the TMC high cut score and 18 are already RRTs! Congratulations!



Congratulations to the following award winners!

- Respiratory Therapy Program Award : Zack Stephens of Hokes Bluff (pictured top left)
- Clinical Excellence Award: Caleb Mathews of Huntsville (pictured bottom left)
- Academic Excellence Award: Kiya Steele of Falkville (pictured bottom right)



Have you Registered With CE Broker yet?

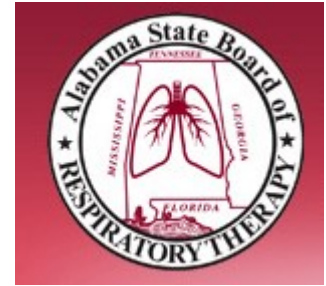
It's that time again! You must complete CE Broker registration and upload your CEUs to be eligible for license renewal this year. Renewal will start soon, so make sure you're ready!

The ASRC hosted a free webinar on how to use CE Broker, if you missed it, there are other resources to help you navigate CE Broker. The [ASBRT has a section dedicated to CE Broker](#). Also, CE Broker

has a Support line Monday-Friday 8AM-8PM ET at 877-434-6323.

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](#) website for more information.



ASRC Awards



Please congratulate our 2023 ASRC award recipients!

- Jerry King was awarded the Fred Hill Award, presented to the Specialty Practitioner of the year (pictured top left, left to right Jerry King and Ed Goodwin)
- Robert Johnson was awarded the Brenda "BB" Basnight Award for Outstanding Service to the RT Profession, Mentoring, and Community Service (Pictured top center, left to right Robert Johnson and Brenda Basnight)
- Tim Op't Holt was awarded the Ronda Hood Award for Lasting and Sustainable Contributions to the Respiratory Therapy Profession (pictured top right, left to right award accepted on behalf by Robert Johnson and Ronda Hood)
- Ken Thigpen was awarded the Don Creel Award for Industrial Representative of the Year (Pictured bottom right, left to right Duke Johns and Ken Thigpen)



ASRC Board Member Highlight: Shalanda Lee MHA, RRT-NPS



Shalanda is one of our East Central District Representative.

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

My grandmother was on a ventilator in Baptist East's ICU. While she was on life support, I was fascinated by everything the machine did to save her life. The one thing she told everyone she met in the hospital before passing away was, "This is my granddaughter. She will be someone one day". Daily, I strive to live up to her expectations.

What is your favorite thing about your career?

The experience of watching a previous graduate soar and excel is priceless for an educator. Therefore, I am confident I am on the right path of educating others and inspiring them to pursue their goals.

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

I have networked with countless colleagues since joining the board. If I have a question or concern about respiratory issues, I can always send an email, call, or text someone. Everyone with open arms welcomed me.

What is your favorite hobby?

It's my passion to volunteer in the community and give back to less fortunate people.

ASRC BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

This Quarter we are highlighting Jerry King and Shalanda Lee, who are both educators in Alabama. We hope you enjoy getting to know your representatives!

ASRC Board Member Highlight: Jerry King RRT



Jerry King is our House of Delegates Representative for Alabama.

What started your path to Respiratory Therapy?

When I was in high school, I dislocated my shoulder playing football. I had a really good athletic trainer and physical therapist help me. My goal was to become a physical therapist. Enter freshman year of college, the PT profession moved to a Master's degree. Someone said- try the Respiratory program for your BS degree. My first thought was- "what is that."

Fast forward a few years, I had some great experiences in my clinical rotations and saw the difference RTs were making, fell in love with the profession and never looked back.

What is your favorite thing about your career?

The favorite thing about my career is seeing the success and accomplishments of my students.

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

I really enjoy being on the ASRC board. It has opened doors for me to meet a lot of different people and work with them. I truly believe a team can accomplish more together than the individuals working along.

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

I believe this is a great time to be a Respiratory Therapist. I see therapists actually being able to expand the scope of our practice. Physicians should be able to look at therapists and say- manage my patients and call me if you need me. We are trained at a high level of skills and education, have 1 of the hardest credential exams, yet we only utilize a few of our abilities. The future opportunities for RTs are endless.



President's Corner

RT in Alabama is advancing! As an elected group of volunteers, it is not always easy to know what the board is doing for you. We adopted the AARC Strategic Plan of working to help Elevate, Advocate, Educate, and Engage, our profession. As your Alabama Society Board, we have been working on these goals to help represent Alabama RTs to the best of our ability. Here are some bullet points of what we are working on:

Elevate - Alabama is opening several new RT programs. We are excited to see more opportunities coming for students to join our field. Here are some programs coming soon:

- University of North Alabama - Jabril Cooper Diamond and Erin Cantrell will be accepting students to their new bachelor's level program in fall semester.
- Coastal Community College - Byron Truelove is actively looking for a candidate to fill the Director of Clinical Education position for their new program with a goal of admitting students in 2024.
- University of West Alabama - Jerry King is working on getting that program started with an estimated start date in fall 2024. He will also be hiring a new DCE soon.
- Calhoun Community College - currently completing interviews for a Program Director to start a program there.
- There are a couple of others that are also working on new programs, but I will wait to mention names until we have more official information.
- I am not trying to state the ASRC board is in any way responsible for opening these programs, but we have written letters of support and helped connect key stakeholders with Alabama RT leaders to support these efforts.

Advocate - the ASRC Board of Directors recently voted to approve travel reimbursement for our PAC (Political Action Committee) Reps to attend the national meeting in Washington, D.C., later this year. There, they will work to represent Alabama RTs at the national and at the state levels.

- Jerry King will be representing Alabama RTs at the AARC House of Delegates meeting at AARC Summer Forum

Educate - in addition to supporting the effort to open new programs, the ASRC held one of our largest conferences in several years in April. We hosted a very successful mini conference in Montgomery last month. We have mini conferences planned for Birmingham and Huntsville for August and September, with registration available on our website.

- We have partnered with AVANOS to provide FREE CEUs/CRCEs! Thanks to a generous educational grant from AVANOS, the remaining Tuesday Talks for this year will be free! You must still register through the ASRC site at www.alsrc.org. The speaker list for July, August, and September should be posted soon. We are working on additional talks for Respiratory Care Week, and we will continue providing these through the end of the year!

Engage - one of the hardest goals to specify for our year is engagement. How can we better engage RTs across the state of Alabama? Here are some things we have been working on. Please share ideas if you have ways to improve our progress!

- HOSA - we attended the Alabama HOSA Leadership conference earlier this year. Thanks to the team that represented us at the conference, we have been able to go into several high schools to share the idea of RT as a career choice.
- Leaders and Educators Roundtable - Robert Johnson, UAB, and Ed Goodwin, JSU, have begun leading a monthly Zoom meeting to connect state leaders and educators. We had our first call June 22nd, with approximately 30 people participating. The group voted to do these on a monthly basis. This is not for CEUs, it is simply to help connect state RT leaders and RT educators. The call is open to RT leaders/educators in all capacities - directors, managers, supervisors, lead therapists, dept. educators, RT program educators, etc. It is free. The meetings are tentatively scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of each month at 1pm. We will share the link through AARConnect, email, etc.
- Alabama RT Educators - the Alabama RT Educators have formed a group to connect with each other. We will begin meeting once per quarter, starting in July. The Alabama RT Education landscape is changing drastically, this committee meeting is meant to share ideas, best practices, accreditation pointers, and simply connect with colleagues.

As you can see, we have been busy. We are working hard to represent you. We are always looking for ways to improve, so please do not hesitate to reach out and let us know if you have any ideas. If you want to be a part of this team, we need volunteers! Just let us know and we will get you busy somewhere!

As always, thank you for what you do! RTs never get the recognition that they deserve. You do amazing things! You save lives! Do not lose sight of how important your role is, you may not get the recognition you deserve, but you make a difference! Thank you,

Ed
Ed Goodwin, MSRT, LRT, RRT, RRT-ACCS, RPFT
Department Head & Associate Professor, JSU Respiratory
ASRC President; ASBRT Board Member
JSU College of Health Professions and Wellness
Office (256) 782-5431; pegoodwin@jsu.edu
www.jsu.edu/respiratory



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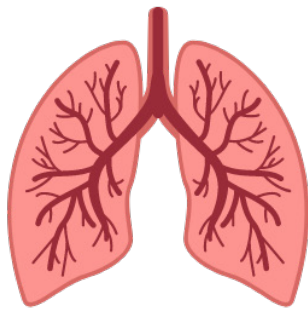


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TUESDAY TALKS

AARC ACCREDITED

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 July 11th, 2023 | 1:00pm EDT

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Hosted by: Nicholas Prevo
BSRT, RRT-ACCS, NPS, CPFT,
AE-C

Presented by ASRC Through a Grant by AVANOS
Continuing Education Credit Provided by AARC

Biofilm in Endotracheal Tubes

 August 8th, 2023 | 1:00pm EDT

The course "Biofilm in Endotracheal Tubes" is designed to introduce or refresh clinician knowledge of the bacterial biofilm that develops and grows inside endotracheal tubes. The course explains what biofilm is and how biofilm develops. It also discusses where biofilm grows and how it becomes resistant to antibiotics. Lastly, it reviews several procedures and devices that help reduce and/or treat biofilm growth in endotracheal tubes.



Hosted by: Simon Gutierrez
MS, RRT, Clinical Specialist
Respiratory Health, AVANOS

Presented by ASRC Through a Grant by AVANOS
Continuing Education Credit Provided by AARC

Understanding Blind Bronchoalveolar Lavage (mini-BAL)

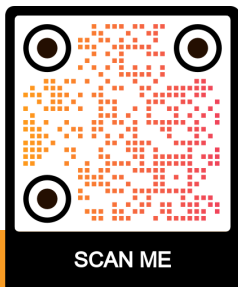
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Hosted by: Nicholas Prevo
BSRT, RRT-ACCS, NPS, CPFT,
AE-C

Presented by ASRC Through a Grant by AVANOS
Continuing Education Credit Provided by AARC



REGISTER TODAY!
<https://www.alsrc.org/tuesday-talks>



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