

OT INSIGHT

Keeping the views and goals of Idaho Occupational Therapy practitioners in sight

September 2007

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www.id-ota.com

October 12-13, 2007

Conference to be first class

As president-elect of the Idaho Occupational Therapy Association, Farrell Lindley, MOTR/L has spent countless hours planning for the IOTA Annual Conference. It's success will be determined in a few short weeks.

The main purpose of the conference is to provide quality continuing education for occupational therapy practitioners in Idaho. The annual conference also serves as the main fund raising activity of the association and the Friday evening silent auction provides money to support ongoing advocacy and awareness programs including a lobbyist.



Farrell Lindley, MOTR/L
Annual Conference Chair
President-Elect

According to Farrell, it was a team effort to determine the right mix of courses for general interest. That team included OTs Becki Stephens, Cherie Strand, Ludee Vermaas, Robyn Wu, Jill Zwyer and executive director Linda Jackson. "We have twelve outstanding presenters and a wide variety of topics we think will interest everyone, wherever they are in their career," Farrell explained.

In addition to the two-day DIR ® /Floortime workshop for pediatrics, there are different sessions to choose from including hands/upper extremity, community based practice, psychosocial and business issues. Labs on Saturday will allow therapists of all skill levels to learn modalities, splinting, kinesiography and shoulder evaluations.

Susanne Smith Roley, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA will kick off the conference with a keynote address "Broadening the Framework of Occupational Therapy." Understanding the many dimensions of occupational therapy in contemporary settings is the cornerstone to advancing the awareness of occupational therapy in Idaho. The committee concedes, it is an aggressive agenda.

To accommodate the new schedule and increased attendance, the 2007 Annual Conference has moved to the Owyhee Plaza Hotel, 1109 W. Main, Boise. With more space, classroom facilities and better surroundings for our exhibitors and meal functions, participants can expect a first class conference. All meals are included with registration, but members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting, Founder's Hour Silent Auction and SIS Luncheon even if they have not registered for the entire conference. Tickets may be purchased online at www.id-ota.com.

During the Annual Meeting, Farrell will be installed as President of the Idaho Occupational Therapy Association. She says she is looking forward to serving and furthering goals and objectives of IOTA. Among her priorities will be advocacy and awareness for the association including research into establishing an Education and Awareness Foundation for IOTA.

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District Chairs

Far North
Janna Herman

North
Open

South Central
Lesley Ruby

Southeast
Janice Jean

Southwest
Diann Davis-Martin
Aileen Ellis

SIS Coordinators

Hands
Marilyn Andrew

Mental Health
Farrell Lindley
Kelly Thompson

Pediatrics
Jeanette Runnings

Phys Dys
Becki Stephens

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M.Ed., OTR/L

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Dana Howell
Ph.D., OTD, OTR/L

Executive Director

Linda Jackson



Annual Meeting Luncheon: Friday, October 12 at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel

IOTA has made significant strides this year. Most notable, currently 220 occupational therapy practitioners call themselves members. We thank you for your investment in your future. Join us at the Annual Meeting to learn more about the accomplishments, goals and objectives of the only Idaho association dedicated to advancing the OT profession. The luncheon is free with conference registration or tickets may be purchased separately online at www.id-ota.com for \$20.00. Information: 208.861.2310.

Governmental Affairs

IOTA is very close to retaining a lobbyist. With directions from the July 14 Executive Board meeting, Ludee Vermaas, President and Linda Jackson, Executive Director have been in discussions with John Watts, Partner, Veritas Advisors and have recommended his appointment.

John is well-known and respected in Capitol circles. He has been lobbying the Idaho Legislature, US Congress and numerous local government bodies throughout Idaho since



1983. He has a record of accomplishments for clients managing public policy issues representing business and policy interests. Issue areas have included health care, public education, Medicaid, appropriations, special taxing districts, telecommunications, transportation, private property rights and conservation and wildlife.

John comes highly recommended by the Idaho Chamber Alliance and AOTA.

When retained, he will begin monitoring state level legislation, agency rules and other public policy proposals initiated by the appropriate agency, other lobbyists and special interest groups that may affect the OT profession. He will report to IOTA, respond on our behalf, and facilitate appropriate meetings to establish a strong presence for IOTA and occupational therapy in regulatory affairs in Idaho.

Executive Board welcomes new members

New members join the IOTA Executive Board (EB) as the administration changes in October. The newly elected officers are:

- Aileen Ellis, COTA/L—Secretary
- Sarah Hadley, COTA/L—OTA Liaison
- Sarah Mennear, OTS —Student Representative

Becki Stephens, OTR/L was also re-elected as Special Interest Section (SIS) Chair. They join:

- Farrell Lindley, MOTR/L, 2007-2008 President
- Karla Brown, OTR/L, Vice President
- Eric Burbach, OTR/L, CHT, Treasurer
- Jill Satren, Reimbursement Chair

Cherie Strand, OTR/L CHT was re-elected by AOTA members to serve as the RA Delegate, retaining her seat on the IOTA EB. Ludee Vermaas, M.Ed., OTR/L will move into the position of Immediate Past President.

Leaving the EB in October are Robyn Wu, OTD, OTR/L, BCP, Kelly Buchanan, COTA/L and Dana Howell, PhD, OTD, OTR/L. IOTA extends our sincere appreciation for their service.

Bylaws amendments to be considered at Annual Meeting

In order to promote the professional development and transparent transition of leadership, the Executive Board has been considering three amendments to the IOTA Bylaws. One is being presented as a formal motion to adopt: *"Article XII. Fiscal Year-The fiscal year shall be from July 1 to June 30."*

Also in discussion are the establishment of a standing committee for continuing education and the process to elect a president of the association should a president-elect not be chosen in a prior year. Formal motions will be presented for both issues at the Annual Meeting on October 12 at noon. Please join us and help make the decisions to guide IOTA's future.

Auction benefits lobby fund

One of the highlights of the IOTA Annual Conference is the Founder's Hour Social and Silent Auction.

This activity recognizes the founding members of the Idaho Occupational Therapy Association. It also gives us the opportunity to raise money for advancing the OT profession in Idaho. Brenda Krueger, COTA/L and Optimal Therapy Staffing/Elks/SLIERS will be our hosts.

Won't you bring your checkbook, friends and associates and join us as we build our fund to advance IOTA advocacy and awareness projects.

Founders Hour

Social & Silent Auction

To benefit IOTA advocacy and awareness projects.
Sponsored by



Friday, October 12
5:15 to 7:00 PM
Owyhee Plaza Hotel
Terrace Grill
1109 Main Street, Boise

Donation: \$10.00
Free with conference registration.
Call 208.861.2310 for information.

SIS Luncheon returns to Annual Conference

Join your colleagues for this popular networking activity even if you are not registered for the conference!. Tickets are free with conference registration or \$20.00 if purchased separately. Call 208.861.2310 or visit www.id-ota.com to learn more.

Choose from:

- Mental Health
- Hands
- Phys Dys
- Peds

President's report

Thank you for allowing me to serve you these past four years in advancing our profession. As I reflect back on this past year as your President, what stands out is the incredible generosity of time and talent given by members of IOTA to the association. Certainly life in general is busy enough; it is difficult to give the extra our volunteer association needs. Yet if we do not give our association the time and talents needed, no one is going to do it for us. Pretty soon, we have other professions encroaching into our practice areas.

Goals achieved this year by this Board are very awe inspiring. This is a very engaged Board supported by an admirably efficient Executive Director.

Goal 1 was to work towards a Medicaid rule allowing provider status for independent occupational therapy practitioners. The rule will be published towards the end of this month for public comments. **DONE.**

Goal 2 was to ensure quality continuing education opportunities for our members by becoming an AOTA CE Approved Provider. We completed application to this program and we will get a response from AOTA within the next 20 days. **DONE.**

Goal 3 was to increase membership retention and recruitment efforts so that 40% of licensed OTs and OTAs are members of IOTA. There were 171 members when this current Board took office last September. We have currently 220 members, 42%. **DONE.**

Goal 4 was to implement a statewide awareness campaign in conjunction with the annual membership drive during the month of April—OT Awareness month. We successfully completed a membership drive last April resulting in 30 new members. **DONE.**

Goal 5 was to develop additional promotional material and a referral system to reach out to non-OT professions and consumers throughout the year. We provided insurance companies and other agencies information regarding occupational therapy. **DONE.**

Goal 6 was to increase the number of IOTA-sponsored continuing education seminars or conferences. Diana Henry presented in February to a very enthusiastic class of pediatric therapists and educators. Special Interest Sections and Districts continue to organize social and educational gatherings. **DONE.**

Goal 7 was to provide opportunities for members to learn and teach through multi-track workshops at the SIS and District meetings. This year's annual conference will present multi-track workshops. **DONE.**

Goal 8 of conducting distance learning throughout the state has not been initiated this year. This goal will be tabled as part of the new Strategic Goals.

Goal 9 was to amend the By-Laws to elect a student representative to the Executive Board. The amendment was adopted last general membership meeting and Mandy Lee served as the first OT student representative. **DONE.**

Goal 10, 11 and 12 were not addressed, but were discussed several times during EB meetings these past year. They are: encourage the development of an OTA program for Idaho, highlight collaborative practices between OTs and OTAs with an awards program, and establish an office with access to conference rooms for meetings and seminars.

Two more important accomplishments are credited to this Board. Updated IOTA Strategic Goals and Objectives will be presented during the annual membership meeting this month. This will be the blueprint for our association in the next five years. Additionally, a lobbyist, John Watts, is being hired to assist our association in legislative areas such as updating our practice act, moving our licensure board from the Board of Medicine to Occupational Licensure Board, and dealing with the PT encroachment issue.

Please continue the excitement our association generated this year. Be involved and get others to become part of this movement. Sharing your time and talents pays huge dividends, for you and for your association. I, too, will keep connected and appreciate the opportunity to serve.



Ludee Vermaas, M.Ed., OTR/L

Eye on Education

Stabilizing forces have arrived to guide and grow the Occupational Therapy program at Idaho State University. Aaron Eakman, Ph.D., OTR/L has assumed the position of Program Director and Bryan Gee, OTD, MS, OTR/L is the new Academic Fieldwork Coordinator.

Dr. Eakman received his Ph.D. in Occupational Science from the University of Southern California just this year, and has been practicing occupational therapy for the past 15 years. Dr. Gee earned his clinical doctorate from the University of Saint Augustine in 2007, and has been practicing occupational therapy for 5 years, with an emphasis in pediatric practice. Together with Kelly Thompson, MS, OTR/L, who has been a faculty member since 2002, the ISU Occupational Therapy program is now underway for the 2007-2008 academic year with a new class of eight MOT students.

District Information

Vice President Karla Brown is looking for a few good district leaders. According to Karla, there are several ways to serve the OT profession at the District level.

The first is as a District Chair. The District Chair provides informational meetings for colleagues in their area.

The second way is to join the newly proposed Speaker's Bureau. The Speaker's Bureau will be used for outreach to other professionals and consumers, and they will develop presentations for in-service trainings for the profession. Contact Karla at kbrown@ierh.org or 208.630.4564 to get involved.



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OT Insight

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Welcome New Members!

Judith Rosevear, MS, OTR/L
Shari Sellars
Race Russell, OTS
Carolina Levia-Vania, OTR/L
Chad Duke, OTS
Barbara Steigers, COTA/L
Sarah Urvand, MOT, OTR/L
Robin Leary, OT
Aaron Eakman, PhD, OTR/L
Laurie Appel, OT
Laurie Graber, OT
Theresa Waterbury, OTR/L, CHT
Martin Taylor, OTR/L
Robert Swider, OTR/L, CHT
Kathleen Ellis, OTR/L
Bryan Gee, OTR/L
Heather Corbet, OTS
John Stroh, COTA/L
Joan Easton, OTR/L
Kristin Robyn Howard-Owens, OT
Alison Schelske, COTA/L
Robert DeCamp, Sr., OTR/L
Cheryl Rodnick, OTR/L
Sarah Mennear, OTS
Diane Leach, OTR/L
Rachel West, OTS
Returning members who have been away more than a year are considered "new."

Education | Employment | Opportunities

 **We are FIRST with our Patients...
And FIRST with You!**

Change your company; change your life! Make the most out of your career with the company that puts People First. Take this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others with the company known for the highest in quality patient care. Our reputation speaks for itself—be a part of the best.

Washington	Wyoming	Idaho	Meridian
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Montana	Rawlins	Caldwell	Nampa
Dillion	Riverton	Emmett	Weiser
Great Falls	Rock Springs	Kellogg	

Lucinda Carpenter
Phone: 888-836-8811 Fax: 866-836-8812
Email: Lucinda.Carpenter@Peoplefirstrehab.com
www.peoplefirstrehab.com

EOE

2 Opportunities
Lewiston, Idaho
www.sjrmc.org

Graduate of accredited program approved by the AOTA. Will be licensed to practice in ID and WA. Considering OT or COTA. Please review benefit summary online www.sjrmc.org and print application for employment.

Contact: Nancy Owens
(208) 799-5489
Nowens@sjrmc.org
Heather Kite, Lead OT
Hkrite@sjrmc.org

Full-time positions
Day shift
Weekends off

Pediatric OT position
Will work primarily with pediatric patients. Both contract and outpatient. Some adult inpatients.

Adult OT position
Will work with outpatient, home health and inpatient adult. Hand therapy and splinting experience preferred.

Children's Therapy Place 
www.childrenstherapyplace.com
(208) 323-8888

- Full-time, part-time and PRN OTs needed for school base and/or early intervention in the Boise area
- Part-time OT needed in McCall to work with all ages
- Generous salary and benefits package including health insurance, paid holidays and education reimbursement
- Independent contractor positions also available

Kent School District

Full-time OT position available for the 2007-2008 school year.


Candidates will provide therapy to handicapped students ages 3-21 in the Kent School District, Kent, Washington. Come join an exceptional team with strong district leadership. Credit for years of experience. Kent is located between Seattle & Tacoma in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

 Contact: Judy Yasutake,
Coordinator, Special Services
judy.yasutake@kent.k12.wa.us
253.373.7512

Alaska

SERRC, Alaska's Educational Resource Center, provides services to school districts located throughout The Last Frontier. Join the team that will provide you with the adventure of a lifetime while delivering special education related services to children in rural and remote Alaska.

For more info, contact Judy Robertson at judyr@serrc.org or visit our web site at www.serrc.org

 **SERRC** Alaska's Educational Resource Center
Providing educational services and solutions to school districts and communities throughout The Last Frontier since 1976

 **Saint Alphonus**

Saint Alphonus Rehabilitation Services (STARS) is seeking two full-time Occupational Therapists:

PEDIATRIC OT and NEUROLOGICAL OT

STARS is a comprehensive therapy provider with sites throughout the Treasure Valley. We offer competitive salaries, flexible schedules, excellent benefits and a great place to work.

Contact
Karen Livingston, HR Manager
kareli@samrc.org

 Meridian Joint School District No. 2
Meridian, Idaho

OT position for the 2007-2008 school year

Successful candidate can choose from full or part-time. Will provide therapy to students (3-21) across the large school district. Experience working in schools preferred. Come join a dynamic and professional team!

Contact: Marnie Schell, Special Ed. Supervisor
(208) 250-5129
schell.marnie@meridianschools.org