

ACPE NEWS

of the North Central Region

PO Box 1832
Burnsville, MN 55337-1832

612-270-3313

Fax: 952-431-1423

E-Mail: ncracpe@ncracpe.org

Web Address: www.ncracpe.org

Gary Sartain, Regional Director

Volume XLIV, Number One

April, 2011

Table of Contents

Page 2	Certification Successes; Emerging Young Leader Award; Welcome...
Page 3	APC Outstanding Local Leader & Retired Chaplain Awards...
Page 4	Steve Pohlman honored on retirement from CPE...
Page 5	Fairview CPE Program 50th Anniversary Celebration...
Page 6	News & Notes of the Region...
Page 7	NCR Sub-Region Education Events...
Pages 8 & 9	Accreditation Commission/Committee Report...
Page 10	ACPE Board of Representatives Report...
Page 11	ACPE Annual Meeting Pictures...
Page 12	RD Ramblings.....

Dates to Remember

May 4-6, 2011	NCR Certification, Wisconsin Dells, WI
September 17-19, 2011	Minnesota continuing ed—Anderson complex, Grand Marais, MN
October 8-9, 2011	NCR Certification—Wisconsin Dells, WI
October 9-11, 2011	NCR Annual Meeting, Wisconsin Dells, WI
November 2-6, 2011	ACPE Fall Leadership Mtgs, Atlanta, GA
February 4-7, 2011	ACPE Spring Leadership Mtgs, Washington, DC
February 8-11, 2011	ACPE 2012 Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (Joint Mtg with REM on REM's 25th Anniversary)

ACPE NEWS

of the North Central Region

Volume XLIV, Number One

April, 2011

PO Box 1832

Burnsville, MN 55337-1832

612-270-3313

Fax: 952-431-1423

E-Mail: ncracpe@ncracpe.org

Web Address: www.ncracpe.org

Gary Sartain, Regional Director

CERTIFIED! YEA!!!

CONGRATULATIONS!



Rene' with baby Asher

Rene' Brandt was certified as a CPE Supervisor and **Danielle Buhuro** was certified as a Candidate Supervisor when the NCR Certification Committee met in Oak Brook, IL, February 18th.



Celebrating Rene's success with a champagne toast:



Pictured are Advocate colleagues Corky DeBoer, Susan Gullickson, and Amy Snedeker, plus spouse Andrea Mysen & their baby, Asher

Congratulations to Bob Green, honored as an "Emerging Young Leader" by ACPE at the 2011 Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City



Welcome Ted Asfaw, joining the Fairview team in Minneapolis on May 9th.

Ted comes to us from Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville, MD.

Congratulations to NCR Members Jodie Futornick and Ken Siess who were recently honored by the Association for Professional Chaplains. Jodie received the Outstanding Local Leadership Award and Ken received the Retired Chaplain Award:

**Outstanding Local Leadership Award
Jodie Futornick BCC**

The Outstanding Local Leadership Award is given to a member in good standing who has exhibited outstanding dedication to and promotion of APC through active involvement at the local level. For 2011, APC presents this award to Rabbi Jodie Futornick BCC, staff chaplain at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington, IL.



**Retired Chaplain Award
Kenneth J. Siess DMin BCC**

The Retired Chaplain Award is given to a retired member who has made significant contributions in retirement to the field of chaplaincy care or to APC as an organization. Our recipient for 2011 is Kenneth J. Siess DMin BCC (retired).

The APC release included the following information about them:

Jodie received her master's degree and rabbinic ordination from Jewish Theological Seminary. Board certified in 2007, she has promoted the advancement of chaplaincy ever since and is described as "a consummate professional who truly lives the mission and vision of APC." She has become a valued resource for chaplains in Illinois, serving as state continuing education chair in 2008-2009 and presently as Illinois state representative. In addition, she is always willing to chair, present or serve on certification committees. Of this ministry, one colleague says, "I was impressed by Jodie's ability to put the candidate at ease and frame questions to elicit the individual's very best responses without sacrificing APC's professional standard."

In serving her fellow chaplains, no task is too large or too small, whether writing articles, presenting workshops, serving on the 2010 Conference Local Arrangements Subcommittee, helping out at the registration desk or spending a day at the APC office reviewing continuing education reports. As a member of the Education Committee since 2008 and now also chair of the Continuing Education Subcommittee, she patiently and diligently helps members interpret and fulfill their continuing education (CE) requirements for maintenance of certification. In addition, she serves as chair of the Workshops Subcommittee for next year's APC conference in Schaumburg.

At Good Shepherd, Jodie supports students in their clinical pastoral education as a preceptor; speaks the voice of professional chaplaincy at the corporate level of the institution and serves as co-chair of the Ethics Committee. She also sits on the advisory board of the Jewish Healing Network of Chicago. She is enrolled in a master's program in bioethics and health care policy at Loyola University. Jodie is fond of saying, "I am a Jewish chaplain in a Protestant hospital studying at a Catholic university," a testament not only to her interfaith ministry but also her delightful humor.

Jodie's day-to-day service reflects her dedication to delivering excellent care to all whom she encounters – patients, family, staff and volunteers. Her appointments to various leadership roles attest to her organizational abilities as well as her collegiality.

"She is the kind of person this award was created to recognize," says a colleague. "Her selfless nature of service is apparent throughout her interactions, and she often works in the background on something with significant time investment on her part, content to allow the end product be her reward."

Endorsed by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, **Ken** was board certified in 1978 by the College of Chaplains and was a pastoral counselor in the Association of Mental Health Clergy. These organizations later merged to become the Association of Professional Chaplains.

He has been an active member and willing volunteer throughout his career and after his retirement in 1997 from Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota as director of pastoral services.

“Ken’s clear thinking, his warm pastoral presence and generosity of service to APC is an inspiration,” says a colleague. “I wholeheartedly believe our organization is stronger today, thanks to the extraordinary gifts of Ken Siess BCC, and thanks to his honest and straightforward commitment to the profession we love and to which we are dedicated.” Ken is a retired certified supervisor with the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education. With studied patience, he shepherded colleagues in both ACPE and APC into affirming the need for a Code of Professional Ethics and building accountability into their professional standards of practice.

Before his retirement, he served as chair of ACPE’s Professional Ethics Commission. After he retired, he was asked to help out a young APC with its Commission on Professional Ethics. APC had not yet had any ethics cases, and when two came before the commission, Ken agreed without hesitation to serve as investigator. Then in 2003 when a position on the commission became vacant, he again said yes. Ken is described as a person of honor and integrity who brought clarity to complex material, patiently guided newcomers and approached ethics cases with the utmost diligence, sensitivity and care. In 2007, the position of chair became vacant, and again Ken said yes.

“Ken has been a remarkable ‘face’ of God and compassion; a true servant leader,” says a commission member. “He was very respectful and handled each investigation with utmost care and grace. He represented extremely well what chaplaincy and our association is all about.”

That a chaplain is willing to serve his professional organization in retirement is commendable. But to take on such a grave and weighty responsibility as chair of the Commission on Professional Ethics is truly remarkable. Adherence to the Code of Professional Ethics is the cornerstone of the chaplain’s professional ministry, and no one understood this more than Ken Siess, whom we were fortunate to have as our astute and honorable steward.

As another colleague aptly stated, “The investment in APC that Ken made after he retired is a shining example to all of us who are closing in on the end of our employed careers.”

Another NCR member, **Steve Pohlman**, was honored on March 23rd on the occasion of his “second” retirement. He retired in 2004 as from his position as Chaplain and Manager of Pastoral Care at St. Luke’s Hospital in Sioux City, IA, but continued doing CPE until now at St. Luke’s College. It was an amazing 29 year stint! Fittingly, it was announced at that gathering that the CPE Center will be located in the new St. Luke’s College building, and that it’s meeting room will be named in Steve’s honor.

(St.Luke’s and the Ecumenical Institute are working together in an alliance with Avera in Sioux Falls to train SES, Jon Millen, to take over the work in both Centers.)

John Quinlan from the Sioux City Journal wrote a lengthy article about Steve and his life and career in Sioux City. In it he did a very good job articulating what CPE is all about. You are encouraged to go to their website and read it:



http://siouxcityjournal.com/lifestyles/faith-and-values/article_a67c0417-38ca-5da2-a3fa-aaa5fe22f7c7.html

Nearly 200 People Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Fairview CPE Center in Minneapolis

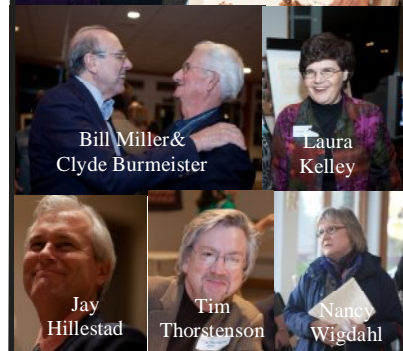
Nearly 200 people celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Fairview CPE Center in Minneapolis on November 11, 2010 at First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights. The current Fairview CPE Center carries the history of CPE at Fairview Hospital, Lutheran Deaconess Hospital, Fairview Southdale Hospital, Ebenezer and University of Minnesota Hospital and Clinics. Fairview Hospital was first accredited through the Lutheran Advisory Council in 1960 with Elof “Gus” Nelson, supervisor. David Belgum started offering units of CPE at the University of Minnesota Hospital in the late 1950’s.



Rev. Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner, author and professor of pastoral care at Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, was the guest speaker. A delicious heavy appetizer reception followed that gave guests an opportunity to visit. The evening concluded with a program including a CPE choir and program of former students reflecting on their CPE experience. Fairview CEO and President, Mark Eustis, served as the Master of Ceremonies. Gary Sartain and JoAnn O’Reilly represented the region and Bishop Craig Johnson of the Minneapolis Area Synod, ELCA brought his blessing. Many former supervisors, former students and local supervisors were in attendance.



Program Participants:



News & Notes of the Region....

Alfred Merwald reports that his surgeon received the “AAA” lab report in that there was no CA around the surgical site and no CA cells in the 20+ lymph nodes he removed for testing, which means he does not need any follow-up radiation therapy. “If there is no recurrence within the year; then I am considered cured”. “I am presently working on the spiritual dynamic of ‘being spared’. Why me and why at this time in my life: these are questions I am entertaining.”

We thought things were similar for **Amy Snedeker**, since blood work in December indicated no cancer markers. But we are saddened to report that she recently underwent surgery to remove a mass that has been confirmed to have been a third metastasis of her original colon-cancer from several years ago. Subsequent tests have revealed several other small lesions, which she reports “has come as more of a blow than I thought it would be., especially since I don’t know what the implications are in terms of what’s next.” In the same email she writes: “Thanks, in continuo, for your prayers.” Contact the regional office for Amy’s email and postal address if you would like to contact her and do not have that information.

Jojo Orosa was planning a trip back to the Philippines this spring to visit his family. However that got pushed up into late January when he learned that his mother had been in and out of the hospital with pneumonia and was not expected to live much longer. Sadly, his mother passed away on January 20th before he got home. However, he was able to get to Manila for the funeral. When he reported his mother’s death as he prepared to leave for her funeral, he said that “Behind my grief is my excitement to see my family again.” We are glad he had the opportunity to go home to be with his family in their time of loss and also happy to report his safe return.

Congratulations to **Linda Campbell** on this the 30th year of her Ordination. **Peter Lundholm** and other colleagues at the St. Cloud VA organized a worship service and gathering to commemorate this milestone, presenting her with a beautiful plaque. In her thank you email Linda wrote “Celebration has not been my strong suit, but I fully enjoyed celebrating with you. You-all make my work meaningful and a blessing.”

Major change is underway at **University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics**. **Larry Shostrom** will be leaving, as his position will be eliminated the end of June. Funding for that position from the College of Medicine is being cut at the end of this budget year due to fiscal restraints. The other Supervisor, **Virginia Lane**, is scheduled to retire in May, although there is currently some discussion about her staying on through the summer. University of Iowa has been offering a two-year residency or second year residency program for a number of years. That format will be abandoned, but a supportive administration and PAG hope to re-organize the program and begin a standard residency program again by September, 2012.

Retired NCR Supervisor **Chuck Weinrich** is a Co-Editor of *Caring Connections*, an inter-Lutheran pastoral care journal that is available free to all who subscribe. The Fall 2010 issue focusing on Pastoral Care and Addictions is available at <http://caringconnections.org>. People with years of experience in these kinds of ministries—Carl Anderson, **Bryn Carlson**, Jim Rivett, John Keller and David Potter have written the articles contained in this issue. Back issues that focused on other topics are also available.

Adventist LaGrange, a satellite of Elmhurst in Illinois, is being accredited as a Center in its own right. **Jan McCabe** will be leaving **Aurora Sinai** in Milwaukee to become the Supervisor there. **Ed Foster** will be looking for interim help and a permanent replacement for Jan.

Meanwhile, **Trinity Medical Center** in Rock Island, IL, a part of the Iowa Health System, has received approval and funding to establish a CPE Center.

Mayo Clinic in Rochester continues to advertise for a Supervisor to join **Roger Ring**. **Fairview** and **Gundersen Lutheran** in LaCrosse, WI have openings for supervisory education students.

NCR Sub-Regions were busy with continuing education activities since our last newsletter....



The Chicago sub-region kicked things off on December 3 by holding a day long educational event on systems theory and the role of anxiety within systems. Supervisors and CPE residents from Illinois and Wisconsin were invited to Elmhurst Memorial Hospital to hear **Peter Steinke**, author of How Your Church Family Works, to present a workshop on Systems Theory and the role of anxiety within systems. The day was recorded using MegaMeeting video-conferencing technology and can be made available for download by contacting the regional office.

The Dakota's sub-region met at Avera in Sioux Falls for the afternoon and then gathered at.....for their annual Christmas dinner.

The Iowa sub-region gathered for their annual winter retreat on January 21 & 22. They met at the historic Hotel Pattee in Perry, IA. Their topic was the evolution of their theology over the years and the resultant implications for their supervisory practice.

About 25 members of the Minnesota sub-region met for their annual winter continuing education event on January 28th. It was once again hosted by HealthEast at their Woodbury campus. Rev. Mark Flaten, M.Div., LMFT presented on Attachment Theory in Adult Supervision. Following 14 years in pastoral ministry, Mark is a Marriage and Family Therapist specializing in couple's counseling and supervision of therapy students. Mark began the day by summarizing attachment in human development, and then highlighted recent theory applications to intimate adult relationships and supervisory practice. He challenged our group to cherish our own secure attachments, as well as be mindful of our vulnerability as the starting point for effective supervision. He emphasized the personhood of the supervisor as the primary tool for connecting to students and groups. After lunch and fellowship, BJ Larson facilitated group discussion and integration of the material into supervisory practice. Small groups were asked to consider the following:

Reflect on a student you have supervised who came to mind given this morning's seminar. What was your supervisory experience in working with this student(s)? Share stories at your table while respecting confidentiality.

Given your current supervisory approach, what stance do you take or will you take in the future in supervising students with attachment disorders/challenges? Anything that may reinforce or shift your supervisory approach going forward?

What area(s) of personal or professional growth and integration are you as a supervisor linking up with this topic and conversation? Any areas to suggest for future sub-region continuing education topics?

And the Wisconsin sub-region met at the Redemptorist Retreat Center in Okonomowoc, WI February 10-12. They talked about theory and approaches to IPR, final evaluations and ACPE outcomes. They also had some fun...



April 2-5, 2011 Accreditation Commission Meeting

The following actions were taken on the following centers in the NC Region:

- Advocate Health Care: Add BroMenn Medical Center as a component site; no notations.
- St Cloud – Candidacy to Accredited Member; no notations.
- Elmhurst – self report of late student unit reports. Received notation 300.1.
The notation was removed in the same motion.
- Fairview – self report of late student unit reports. Received notation 300.1.
The notation was removed in the same motion.
- Church Home – self report of late student unit reports. Received notation 300.1.
The notation was removed in the same motion.
- Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches – self report of late student unit reports. Received notation 300.1.
The notation was removed in the same motion.
- Notations were assigned to the following centers for late student unit reports:
 - ◊ Advocate Health Care
 - ◊ Alexian Brothers
 - ◊ Allina
 - ◊ MacNeal Hospital
 - ◊ Rush University

These centers will receive letters from the Commission outlining procedures for removing the notation (300.1).

Discussion on notations for not reporting student units within 45 days of the end of the unit

The commission spent over 3 hours debating and processing the ramification of assigning notations even on one violation and with no prior history. We addressed the issue from several angles and considered the implications for making exceptions. In short, the commission decided it could not make exceptions to a standard and policy. As your accreditation commissioner, I debated and advocated for exceptions, exploring various options with the support of other commissioners. In the end, I am trusting to the wisdom of the commission.

Now I would like to address some of the many complaints about this process I have heard from our region and others. Words/phrases like “punitive” and “not pastoral” or “no grace” are used to project the failures of some supervisors onto the commission, when the commission has been given the responsibility to help centers maintain their accreditation. Here is the commission’s position and the rationale:

- Student unit reports must be registered within 45 days of the end of the unit.
- Centers **may not** change the end date of the unit to avoid being late on unit reports! This could result in a notation with much more significant consequences.
- The commission recognizes that we are people and people make mistakes and circumstances arise that create obstacles to even the simplest of tasks.
- The commission recognizes that when the procedure to registering units on time, there were some problems with the software; when these issues occurred, the commission worked to resolve them and to not assign notations that were not actually late.
- We currently have a policy and procedure for **self-reporting** of being out of compliance with any standard.
 - ◊ When a supervisor in a center realizes that he/she has not registered one or more units on time, the best response is to begin the process of self-reporting. (see the **Process for Attending to Centers’ Self-Reports of Standards Non-Compliance** on page 18 of the Accreditation Commission Policy and Procedure Manual: <http://www.acpe.edu/NewPDF/2010%20Manuals/ACPE%20Policy%20%20Procedure%20Manual%202010.pdf>)
- When a center self-reports non-compliance with late unit reports and follow the procedure for self-reporting, the following possibilities could result:
 - ◊ The center will receive a notation for standard 300.1 and the commission could remove the notation in the same meeting.

- ◇ The center will receive a notation for standard 300.1 and the commission could require the center to respond by sending reports of registered student units to the chair of the regional Accreditation Committee (in which the center resides) for a specified period of time after which the notation would be removed at the next Accreditation Commission meeting.

In the this Accreditation Commission meeting, 4 centers from the NCR followed the procedure outlined in the Accreditation Commission P&P Manual and all 4 notations were removed in the same motion (only 2 or 3 other centers across the nation took this action). The process works. Further, the commission is working on wording of a letter to accompany self reports that are initiated before the center is notified that units were reported late. The letter would affirm the center for taking proactive action in its self report. There is no reason that centers cannot initiate proactive action to minimize the impact of receiving a notation for late student reports unless the center chooses not to report them.

Self reporting of late unit reports can be initiated even after the center has been notified of the late report. If the center initiates a self-report after they receive notice from the ACPE office, the center would receive a notation and still could have the notation removed in the same meeting.

More Highlights!

- Placement agreements: There has been some confusion about whether placement agreements are required for student's to serve in organizations owned by the CPE center? A subcommittee is assigned to work on the parameters to be reported in the fall commission meeting: Bob Green, Barbara Bullock and Wayne Mayberry will be working with center types. More will be reported following the fall commission meeting.
- Regarding commendations: a subcommittee is working on refining the parameters for assigning commendations to centers. The goal is to improved more clarity about recommending and assigning commendations. Any commendation must site standards.
- Plans are in place to issuing photo ID badges for site team members.
- Code of ethics for students – the Ethics Commission has not completed their work on this issue.
- The commission is exploring editing the standard ACPE application form for applying to CPE centers. A sub committee will address possible changes. This issue came up around the required screening interview date.
- Fees: Satellites of centers from another region do not pay fees in some regions. We are exploring how satellites and components across regional boundaries may be required to pay fees to the region in which the component/satellite resides.
- The commission discussed the need to refine the meaning of center's "good standing". Exploring how other organizations define this, we are refining and soon will update this term.
- A Subcommittee was established to study continuing education on accreditation process for newly certified supervisors. One concern is some newly certified supervisors are hired as the only supervisor in a center and not equipped to address organizational and accreditation issues. More study is being launched in concert with Certification Commission to address additional educational opportunities for newly certified supervisors.
- From Standards: Students cannot take two units simultaneously.
- Our current forms have sections for Site teams to make recommendations as to notations as part of their site visit reports. This has created some confusion for some centers that believe that a recommendation is roughly synonymous to the commission action. The wording on these forms will change to minimize any confusion about the site team authority. A site team cannot assign a notation, nor can they guarantee that after their review a center will not receive a notation.
- The commission sent to the Standards commission in the fall meeting to make a ruling on whether to either define 1.5 units or to not allow centers to report 1.5 units. The Accreditation Commission stance: if ACPE is going to allow centers to offer 1.5 units of CPE, standards commission needs to define what 1.5 (or any other fraction) units means.

I serve on a sub committee that is addressing our various types of accreditation. Historically, ACPE has attempted to adapt to the various creative ways CPE could be offered and to define center types that could encompass virtually any conceivable contextual and administrative structure. Historically, centers have challenged the Accreditation Commission to allow for creativity while maintaining boundaries in order to assure compliance with ACPE standards. This has proven to be a continuing challenge with the creativity of ACPE supervisors, the growth and restructuring of healthcare organizations, and the various contexts for offering CPE that stretch across regional boundaries. ACPE can take pride in the creativity of our supervisors, but that creativity often overlooks the diligence of standards necessary to insuring quality and safety of students and those they serve. The commission believes that most supervisors are well intended and believe they are practicing within the accreditation boundaries as defined by the Commission. As the Commission explores these issues, we have endeavored to balance creativity while ensuring quality and compliance with standards. We believe some centers are offering CPE outside the boundary defined by Standards. This has resulted in CPE programs being offered in places unknown to ACPE.

ACPE Board of Representatives Report, April 2011

- Teresa Snorton has resigned the position of Executive Director of ACPE, effective this coming August 31st. She has been appointed bishop of the largest district in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Deryck Durston, current Associate Director, will serve as the Interim Executive Director upon Teresa's departure, until a new Executive Director is named. A search committee is being formed.
- The Racial, Ethnic and Multi-cultural Network will host next year's annual ACPE conference, to be held in February in Arlington, Virginia, a suburb of Washington DC. We will no longer rotate regional host cities; the National Annual Conference Committee will research best accommodations and prices and make the selection annually.
- We have entered into a dialogue with a team of supervisors from the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP) in an effort to build trust and collaboration. At this stage, we have agreed, in a legally mediated process, to refrain from any disparaging language and to set up a mechanism to address any such instances. We are also committed to drafting common criteria for the writing of student evaluations.
- The core curriculum was approved for supervisory education and was approved for distribution as a resource. It will be posted as an attachment to the next eNews.
- A strategic planning process, called ACPE 2020, has been initiated and will lead to a clarified mission and vision, key strategies, and the new governance structure.
- The Foundation for Clinical Pastoral Education's Annual Fund is entitled "Sowing Seeds for Our Holy Work" and has set a goal of \$100,000, of which 20% was already pledged at the annual conference! This money funds the structure to raise the \$15 million dollars for the new ACPE Headquarters and Continuing Education Center in Atlanta, as well as grants for new CPE programs. Please consider supporting these two funds. In order to raise funds outside the organization, it is crucial to show financial support from ACPE members.
- The Norwegian CPE program was recognized for attaining full reciprocity with ACPE, and was represented by three of our good friends, Supervisors Kirsti Mosvold, Bergljot Hauglid and Gunnar Fagerli.
- The annual conference, held in Salt Lake City, April 6 – 9, was a big success. Rachel Remen, KC Kyozen Sato Sensei, and Matthew Fox provided stimulating plenary presentations.

**Tim Thorstenson & Mark Tabbut,
NCR Representatives**

The ACPE News can report all the heavy stuff...like **Teresa Snorton** leaving her Executive Director position the end of August; immediate and proposed governance changes; FCPE updates and the like.....

We'll celebrate accomplishments and fun like **Norwegian CPE / ACPE reciprocity**; an **NCR (St. Cloud VA) 28th Annual Boisen Fun Run sweep**; enjoying the Presidential Banquet; and a **“walk on the wild side”** for some of our members at Friday evenings “Dessert & Entertainment” featuring the Disgusting Brothers Band, a local Salt Lake City band that has played old-time rock and roll for 30 years.

Celebrating Norwegian Reciprocity



Norway's Gunnar Fagarli, Bergliot Hauglid & Kirsti Mosvold with ACPE's Deryck Durston, Sally Schwab, Tim Thorstenson, Teresa Snorton & Edith Finsadal



The Presidential Banquet

Kathy Turner joins Janet Lutz & Jim & Helen Gibbons; Carlos Sanchez joins Dixie Potratz Lehman, Mark Tabbut & Pat Thresher



Linda Campbell & Torstein Holton: Boisen Fun Run Champs!



The Very Distinguished ,(not so) Disgusting Dancers to the Disgusting Brothers Band



RD Ramblings...

The Regional Directors met in San Diego in January with Teresa Snorton & Deryck Durston from the national ACPE office plus ACPE President Sally Schwab, President-Elect Robin Brown-Haithco, and FCPE Board Member Agnes Bourne. It was a very helpful few days.

It was a good opportunity to hear what the response was in the various Regions to the ACPE governance proposal shared at regional meetings and how that had subsequently shaped the thinking of the ACPE Board task force working on it. It was recognized that any changes in governance needs to support and not get in the way of our carrying out our mission, vision and values, so concern was expressed that the initiatives of the strategic planning task force and the governance task force be cross-fertilized and synchronized.

The role of the RD in ACPE governance was looked at, by first looking back and seeing its evolution through the organization's history and then doing a "SWAT" analysis of the position as it is currently situated. What became apparent was the fact that the functional responsibility chart and the communication flow chart are very divergent. This explained an ongoing concern of the RD's: The way in which national leadership often makes well-intended decisions without fully understanding all of the ramifications, leaving us with some "states rights vs. national rights" tension.

Emerging from the conversation as a short-term solution was a commitment from Teresa to develop and implement a decision making flow chart for the ACPE Board, Commissions & Committees that would assure their was consultation with the RD's. A suggestion that seemed to have support across the board was the idea of having an "RD Council" in the new governance structure that would be situated between the Regions and the national office to give RD's voice (but not vote) in each direction, thereby enhancing communication, improving decision-making, and providing broader ownership of decisions and actions taken.

The ACPE Board asked that a Regional Director be chosen to sit on the strategic planning task force and I serving in that capacity. I have also been appointed to the technology task force and was a presenter on technology resources along with John Roach and Teresa Snorton to ACPE leadership at a required pre-conference workshop at the Salt Lake City annual meeting.

We are in the midst of a transition regarding regional and national technology resources for video-conferencing, webinars and email communication. Our thanks to Allen Dundek, who made me aware of a wonderful resource for non-profits called TechSoup, that has an extensive resource library and also allows us to purchase software and equipment at greatly discounted prices.

As you are aware, the national newsletter format has changed significantly in the last year. **I would appreciate your feedback as to whether you would prefer we continue with our current newsletter format or whether you would prefer we switch over the ConstantContact (which is what ACPE uses) and begin to circulate our regional news in that fashion instead.**



NCR Chair-Elect, Roger Ring, reports that all but two NCR Supervisors are current with their peer reviews in relation to regional policy. The two that are not are still within ACPE guidelines and have been encouraged to act expediently. Congratulations for a job well done!!