

# **Michigan Society for Respiratory Care**

Chartered Affiliate of the American Association for Respiratory Care

# **MESSENGER**

# 2021 LIVE VIRTUAL SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP

Spring Committee Co-Chairs: Carissa Novak and Erica Newton

Committee Members: Alicia Wafer, Jeanine Steinaway, Shawn Nicholson, Kelly Fiorino, Erica Basile, and Chris Culter



With the ongoing pandemic, the Spring Conference Committee set out to plan a live virtual conference via Zoom. We offered a total of **13 CRCEs** over four days, with 3-4 lectures per day. 122 respiratory therapists from across Michigan (and one from Virginia!) registered to attend one or multiple days of the event, despite the conference falling in the midst of the third wave of COVID-19.

All of the conference days were kicked off by a **section meeting** from either Acute Care, Education, Neo/Peds, or Leadership. Section meetings are a common occurrence at AARC Congress, but this was the first time for MSRC in many years. Section meetings are open to all members and are a great way to have lively conversations with other respiratory therapists within their specialty. Stay tuned for more information about monthly or bimonthly virtual meetings held by section chairs.

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Breathing life into your career
Vol. 1, Issue 2 June 2021

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Following the section meetings, Chris Culter gave a Presidential Address/Greeting. He thanked attendees, sponsors, and committee members for their participation with the conference during the pandemic. Chris had a moment of silence for RTs who lost their lives in the past year. He also gave an AARC update about the AARC's new Interim Executive Director, Paul Divis, as well as the benefits of being an AARC member. Chris informed us that RTs are now on the list to administer COVID vaccines. He announced the Michigan Phil Award winners, National Patient Advocacy Award Winner (**Teresa Fountain**), Jerry Bridgers Delegate of the Year Award (**Teena Culhane**), and the 2021 Presidential Award (**Nicholas Prush**). Congrats to all the winners!

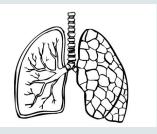
The **Acute Care track** covered COVID from the perspective of the respiratory therapist, patient, ED and ICU physicians. On the second day of conference, the **Education track** included a lecture about Advanced Practice Respiratory Therapy, an interactive simulation with management of a COVID patient, and a review of resume writing and interviewing skills. **Neo/Peds track** was on the third day. Lectures covered unplanned neo/peds extubations, management of bronchopulmonary dysplasia, and NAVA. The conference wrapped up with the **Leadership track** which covered the emotional impact and recovery from COVID, prevention strategies of VAE, and unions in healthcare.

At the end of each conference day attendees were encouraged to participate in an open discussion Social Hour. Prior to each lecture was a mix of prerecorded and live commercials with sponsors. We want to give a big thank you to our sponsors: Fisher Paykel, Philips, AstraZeneca, Siena Heights University, Spectrum Health, Trajecsys, Hayek Medical, Theravance Biopharma, Nova Biomedical, Lake Court Medical Supplies, Hamilton Medical, and Corvent Medical! Thank you to all of those that attended our Live Virtual Spring Conference! We look forward to seeing you next year, hopefully in person.



Committee Co-Chairs Carissa and Erica get ready for the first day of virtual Spring Conference!







#### Trivia Hour: The Winners Are ...

By: David Panzlau

The MSRC Spring Conference went virtual this year and even though there was no official Student Sputum Bowl there was an opportunity for students in RT programs to compete in a Trivia contest. It is not surprising that the winners were from schools that have a long tradition of competing in the Bowl. Thanks to all the schools and students who participated in the Trivia Hour.

**Kahoot!** was used to present and score the questions. Kahoot is an online game-based learning platform that makes it easy to create and play learning contests. There were a total of five games. Each game included ten multiple-choice questions. Students were rewarded for their knowledge and speed with which questions were answered. The content was evenly split between RT content and general trivia. The players used their cell phones to select their answers while looking at the questions on a computer screen. Each game included a Michigan question and a visual image. Here is a sample question.

The city of NOVI was named for:

- A. A car built by Chevrolet
- B. A star in Orion's Belt
- C. The Spanish word for bride
- D. A stagecoach stop



Congratulations to the winners of the Trivia Hour contests and best wishes on a successful career in Respiratory Care.

#### **Mott Community College**

Jennifer Fogelsonger Madison Hedrick Shanna May

#### **Monroe Community College**

Chase Hill Cait Hommerson





Students participating in the Trivia Hour!

The Sputum Bowl Committee was happy to support the contest with \$25 Amazon gift cards for each winner.

#### YARD SIGNS

Visit the MSRC online store to purchase Respiratory Therapist yard signs.

Must order a minimum of 10 signs. The signs are \$15 each and will be shipped to you.

Click <u>here</u> to visit the MSRC store and order your signs.

3 different sign designs are available:







## NO-FAULT INSURANCE REFORM AND HOME CARE

In June of 2019, Governor Whitmer signed the auto nofault reform bill. This bill contains many changes to current insurance laws. One of these changes will affect home care patients in Michigan.

In an effort to lower insurance premiums, the new law lets motorists opt out of carrying unlimited medical coverage. The fee for unlimited medical coverage was used to pay for catastrophic care for injured motorists. On July 1st, 2021 there will be a 45% reduction of the amount automobile insurers are required to reimburse rehabilitation companies. The new auto insurance reform law caps hourly attendant care at 55% of what providers were charging previously. Under the previous insurance law, long term catastrophic care patients were guaranteed access to the care they need.

Many rehabilitation companies rely on clients with nofault auto insurance to keep their doors open. Some facilities, such as Aspire Rehabilitation, are shutting down due to this new change. Patients who have been receiving care will not be grandfathered in and will not continue to receive the same care. These patients will be moved into nursing homes if they cannot afford to pay for in-home care—but there are only seven nursing homes in Michigan equipped and trained to handle ventilated patients.

If you would like more information about this topic, please email Bill Hart at AdventRRTbill@yahoo.com.

## **HAPPY RETIREMENT!**

After nearly 45 years of service at UM in Respiratory Care, Carl F. Haas, MLS, RRT-ACCS retired on March 31, 2021. Carl began his career in August 1976 in "old Main" and became board registered as a respiratory therapist in June of 1979. He was promoted to a supervisor soon after. In 1981, the clinical specialist position in Respiratory Care was newly created. Due to his strong clinical base, he was approached to assume this new role for what was then, the Respiratory ICU (RICU) and the pulmonary general care floor known as 11East. During his time in RICU, Carl worked closely with the likes of Drs Jack Weg, Joseph Lynch and Galen Toews.



Toward the end of 1992, Carl was placed in the role of coordinator of department education and research. Here is where he remained and developed his career on an institutional and national stage. He contributed to numerous advances in this field and achieved many accomplishments along the way. Along with leading and participating on hospital committees and training countless learners and hospital staff, he was very active in research both as investigator and as an author producing several peer review publications.

On a national stage, Carl was named the Adult Acute Respiratory Care Specialty Practitioner of the Year by the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) and was also inducted as an AARC Fellow. His contributions included holding several offices with the Michigan Society for Respiratory Care and national organizations. The most prestigious was being in the role as President of the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) in the mid-2010's where he oversaw board credentialing. As a result of this work, Carl received the Robert H. Miller, RRT Award by the NBRC for outstanding service to the profession and credentialing system in 2018.

Carl has been instrumental in elevating the profession nationally and in the advancement of respiratory care. His daily presence will be missed within the University of Michigan. we all wish you a very enjoyable retirement.

#### **HAPPY RETIREMENT!**

One of our prominent respiratory therapists is retiring this year at the end of July: Kathy Gurin. This is the second time that Kathy is retiring. The first time she retired she was from the Directorship of Respiratory Therapy at McLaren Lapeer Region Hospital

where she worked for 30 years. She is now retiring as Respiratory Therapy Program Director at Mott Community College after working at Mott for 16 Students graduates and from respiratory program will tell you how dedicated Kathy is to their success and is known for going the extra mile for her students, graduates, and employer. Kathy recently was awarded employee of the year at Mott Community College in recognition of her commitment to excellence in all areas.

Kathy has served the profession in many roles. Notably, Kathy has been on the MSRC House of Representatives for many years serving in several Lifetime member awarded Spring conference 2018 roles including President, AARC Delegate, District 8



Representative, golf outing organizer, and Parliamentarian. If you are present at a MSRC House of Representatives meeting, you know we can count on Kathy to ensure we follow Robert's Rules of Order. Due to Kathy's outstanding service to the MSRC she was awarded the MSRC Lifetime Member award in 2018 at the spring conference.

Even though Kathy is retiring she is not going far. She will still be an adjunct instructor at Mott and will still be involved in the MSRC. Respiratory Therapy is in her DNA, and though she will officially be retired from her job, Kathy will never retire from being a respiratory therapist. Kathy, we wish you well on your next adventure.





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Register Now: www.aarc.org/go/sf21



# The Return of Parpalooza!

By: David Panzlau



# Save the Date! 24<sup>th</sup> Annual 3 Parpalooza MSRC Golf Scramble Sunday, August 8, 2021 at 1:00 pm

Ironwood Golf Club / 6902 E. Highland Road, Howell MI

In 2020 the annual MSRC Golf Outing went to a new format in which all 18 holes were converted to Par 3 holes. A survey of last year's golfers indicated an overwhelming number of participants enjoyed the change in format so we are going to stick with it for at least one more year! One bump in the road was the flow of play; after checking with the course, we will implement some rule changes and recommendations which will speed things up quite a bit.

Not only did people enjoy the new format but we had an uptick in registrants and sponsorships which resulted in the most financially successful event to date. Of course, the committee expects to exceed those numbers this year. But that will only happen with your support. So get your family, friends, and people who owe you a favor to enjoy a great afternoon of golf.

Please click <u>Here</u> to register or sponsor the Parpalooza.

#### Thanks to the 2020 Sponsors:

Hurley Medical Center	Kathy Gurin
Advent Home Healthcare	Steve Hamick
Lorrie Zahodnic	Mark Kennedy
MHSA	Dave Panzlau
McLaren / Lapeer Region	Nick Prush
Teena Culhane	Jeanine Steinaway
Helen Grim	Mark Wojtysiak



Weapons of Grass Destruction







WOJO



## **MSRC VOLUNTEERS: AMERICAN LUNG** ASSOCIATION FIGHT FOR AIR CLIMB

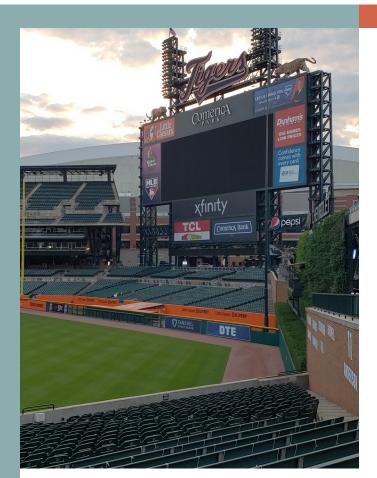
On May 23, climbers took to the stairs at Comerica Park to raise money for the American Lung Associations (ALA) Flight for Air Climb. The initial monetary goal was \$206,000, this goal was quickly reached, and the new goal is \$250,000. The second goal was also quickly reached and exceeded. \$353,979.33 was the final amount of money raised. This money is raised by Detroit area climbers, and will be added to the country's total to assist people with lung disease and aid research activities. According to the ALA's website "Over the last 11 years, the Climbers have raised more than \$60 million to support the mission of the American Lung Association. Last year, more than 26,000 participants from 43 Climb events across the country came together to raise more than \$7 million."

Respiratory Therapists from the MSRC were assisting from registration to cheering at the finish line. This event is a popular volunteering event for MSRC Respiratory Therapists. Comerica Park was the perfect venue for this type of event. climbers were spread out and able to just fly up the stairs, it was amazing to watch.

Have you volunteered at a health event? Send the editors of the newsletter an article and pictures and we will put your event in the newsletter.

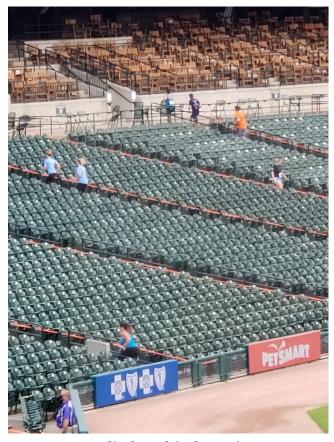








Early morning at Comerica Park!



Climbers hit the stairs!

# MSRC POLITICAL ACTION CONTACT TEAM (PACT) UPDATE 2021



Although the MSRC's Political Action Contact Team was unable to meet with members of the Michigan Congress and Senators in D.C. this year, meetings were held virtually during the months of April and May. The main focus was on two bills that have recently been introduced:

# HR 2903 / S 1512: CONNECT for Health Act (Creating Opportunities Now for New Effective Care Technologies):

- Currently does not allow a provision for health care professionals, including RTs to furnish telehealth services
- Chronic disease management services furnished by RTs via telehealth can reduce costly acute care interventions, improve patient outcomes and lower costs

#### HR 3320 / S 1679: Allied Health Workforce Diversity Act:

- A 2020 Human Resource survey by the AARC revealed a significant lack of diversity among the workforce
- This bill aims to increase diversity in the allied health professions by providing grants and scholarships to education programs in these fields for students from racial and ethnic minorities or for students from disadvantaged backgrounds
- This bill represents an important first step to ensure there is a well-trained and diverse respiratory care workforce in the future

Thank you to the 206 MSRC members who contacted their Congressional Representatives / Senators during our Virtual Lobby Week. Unfortunately, as we have 1000+ members within the MSRC and only had 206 advocates, we have an opportunity to improve this process and are asking for our members to share any ideas on how we can better reach our members and to increase engagement in the future of our profession.



# CHECK OUT THESE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION EVENTS!

#### **Virtual Program for Healthcare Professionals**

June 24, 2021 | 11:00 AM - 6:35 PM CT

Exhibit Hall opens at 10:30 AM

#### Save the Date

Join us for the nationwide virtual Lung Force Expo to learn about the latest trends in research, treatments and recommendations for lung cancer, COPD and other lung diseases. Continuing Education credits are available for nurses, respiratory therapists, and Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES®).

Visit LUNGFORCE.org/Expo for more information.



LUNGFORCE.org/Expo

Because **Breathing** is Living.







# THE MSRC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS LIKE YOU!!!

Want to have fun, be involved, and meet new people? No experience necessary! Consider running for an MSRC House of Representatives position

#### **Open Positions:**

President-Elect (3 year term)

#### **District Representatives (2 year term):**

**District One** (1) will comprise following counties: Gogebic, Ontonagon, Houghton, Keweenaw, Baraga, Iron, Marquette, Dickinson, Menominee, Alger, Delta, Schoolcraft, Luce, Mackinac, and Chippewa.

**District Three** (3) will comprise the following counties: Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Muskegon, Montcalm, Ionia, Kent, and Ottawa.

**District Five** (5) will comprise of the following counties: Barry, Allegan, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Branch, St. Joseph, Cass, and Berrien.

**District Seven** (7) will comprise of the following counties: Jackson, Washtenaw, Hillsdale, Lenawee, and Monroe.

District Nine (9) will comprise Wayne County.

Treasurer (2 year term)

Secretary (2 year term)

**AARC Delegate (4 year term)** 

**Medical Director (1 year term)** 

Nomination form can be located here.

Last day for Nominations: September 1, 2021

Questions or concerns????

Contact: Erica Basile at ericabas@med.umich.edu



# **2021 RESPIRATORY THERAPY GRADUATES**

Congratulations to the 2021 Respiratory Therapy graduates. On behalf of the MSRC, we welcome you to the challenging, rewarding profession of Respiratory Care! The MSRC would like to encourage you to remain a member of your professional society so you can enjoy the many benefits as you enter this new chapter of your career.

Chris Culter- MSRC President

#### **Macomb Community College**



Richard Zahodnic Program Coordinator



Laurie Niemer  ${\it Clinical\ Coordinator}$ 



Amber Clark Lab Supervisor



Donald Reid President



Ashley Herty Vice President



Deonza Kozlowski Secretary



 $Danielle\,Akrawi$ 



Sarah Ali



Martice Bibbs





Michelle Dillon



Mackenzie Enders



 $Rosa\ Garduno$ 



 $Rhiannon\ Garza$ 



Emily Graham



Lacy Gray



Ismael Ismael





Albana Jemishaj Alyssa Kuhr-Mills



James Lawson



Vinisia Nano



Victoria Nichols



 $Alisha\ O'Neal$ 



 $Marissa\ Petz$ 



 $Cailyn \; Rentz$ 



Meaghan Shaum







Irena Spasovski – Madelynn Strzelecki – Anna Szynkowski – Stefanie Weaver





Nathan Wright

Not Pictured: Olivia Szathmari St. Clair Studio@



# 2021 RESPIRATORY THERAPY GRADUATES

## **Oakland Community College**



Graduates: Angelica Arriola, Delisha Blakemore, Chelsea Caudill, Igli Dardeshi, Stephanie Evenson, LaKeisha Grier, Taylor Hall, Amy Harnois, Drake Jenkins, Andrew Marshall, Alissar Mazloum, Brooke Stano, and Nathan Zubal.



# 2021 RESPIRATORY THERAPY GRADUATES

## **Monroe County Community College**



Names from left to right:

Taylor Wright, Natalie Castle, Brandon Bussell, Cassidee Nation, Courtney Low, Ashley Auer, Lauren Glowe, Stephanie Stevens, Kelli Demick, Hope Stanford, Alyssa Brown, Haylie Jewel, Kara Compean, Camryn Hopper

Not pictured: Amanda Grinn & Jessica Swinney

#### **MSRC**

CHARTERED AFFILIATE OF THE AARC

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Please email any articles, pictures, events, etc., that you would like to see in the Newsletter to Nick Prush Next newsletter 10/2021

#### **ADVERTISEMENTS**

For advertising information, contact MSRC Society administrator
Keeli Baker (517) 267-3909
124 West Allegan, Suite
1900,
Lansing, MI 48933
info@michiganrc.org

#### EDUCATION SECTION MEETING

Please join the Education Section Meeting on Thursday, June 24th at 1 pm.

Topic: MSRC Education Section Meeting

Time: Jun 24, 2021 01:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/96063181881

Meeting ID: 960 6318 1881

One tap mobile

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- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 960 6318 1881

Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/afaejaR90

Meeting ID: 960 6318 1881

#### **UPCOMING MSRC EVENTS**

Please see the website www.michiganrc.org for more details on the following events:

- Summer Forum
- Parpalooza
- Lung Force Expo
- Lung Force Walk

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

The MSRC currently has **940** members!

Thank you to all the new AARC/MSRC members:

- Tonia Allen, Southfield
- Winelia Flores-Ortiz, Taylor
- Rebekah Ridgell,
   Hazel Park
- Jeffrey Brzycki, Hastings
- Raleigh Patterson, Detroit
- Mary VanDyk,
   Cadillac
- Michelle Dillon,
   Sterling Heights
- Angela Piccirilli
   Macomb

To renew or become a member click here

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