



Montana Association for Rehabilitation

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Missoula, Montana 59808 406-329-5400

MAR NEWSLETTER

December 2010

53rd CONFERENCE 2010 Review by Martha Ripley

Overall our 2010 Conference was a big success with a wide variety of subjects and speakers. Displayed are the results of the evaluation surveys we received.

Fun night at the Missoula Children's Theatre featured Bit's and Pieces entertainment and great food catered by Kadin's and local MAR members. Wine was donated by Youngs Market and Beer by Bayern Brewery. Coke and Sprite drinks were donated by Coca-Cola Refreshment.



Andy Fowler Chiquita Banana

The Holiday Inn was a great venue but the biggest complaint was the room being too small for 102 attendees, which was a greater than anticipated turnout. When you plan on 80 and 102 show up you bet the room was small. Also, we did not have good wheelchair access in such a crowded space and that should be a priority for next year. Many thanks to the Missoula MAR Chapter for all their hard work.

Jared Schultz, our ethics speaker was the most popular and everyone wanted him to come back. John Kemp, our keynote speaker was very gracious to start earlier than anticipated and inspirational. Many thanks to Mike Mayer for stepping in for 20 minutes to share about his transportation experience as well. Those of you who signed up for CRC credits should be getting a form in the mail in the near future. Thanks to Mark Mahnke for arranging those credits for us.

Stay tuned for more information about the 2011 conference being planned by Brandi Taylor. If you have ideas you would like to share for next year, do not hesitate to contact Brandi or one of our board members listed below.

SPEAKER (1-5 Rating)	Average
John Kemp	4.1
Getting it Right Video	4.1
Ethics - Jared Schultz	4.7
Assisted Technologies	4.0
ADA Transportation	3.7
Employment Discrimination	3.9
ADA - Bob & Mike	3.9
ADA - Cindy & John	3.9
Conference Holiday Inn	4.4
Fun Night - MCT	4.8
Awards Banquet	4.6
Location - Missoula	4.5
Medicaid - Travis	3.2
Job Trends - Larry	4.1
Working well - Catherine	4.3
Executive Functions - I	4.0
Benefits Analysis - Deb	4.6
Deaf Education - Michelle	4.0
Sensitive side - Lois	4.1
Executive Functions - 2	4.2



MCT Lobby—Great Food!

2010 MAR BOARD

Martha Ripley, President § Brandi Taylor, 1st Vice President § Brook Hodge, 2nd Vice President § Jeanne Stone, Treasurer § Tammy Hogan, Secretary § Maria Winslow, Member at Large § Whitney Cantlon, Member at Large § Cathy Drynan, Member at Large § Scott Tanner, Member at Large § Wayne Dagle, Member at Large § Traci Orcutt, Member at Large § Brenda Lee Johnson, Great Falls Chapter President § Mark Mahnke, Billings Chapter President § Rhonda Shumway, Miles City Chapter President § Barbara Varnum, Helena Chapter Interim President § Jeanne Stone, Missoula Chapter President § Butte Chapter President § Kalispell Chapter President

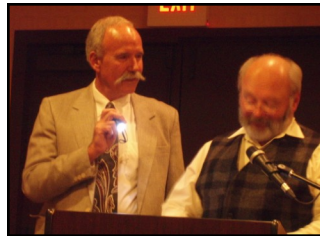


Six Reasons to Join MAR

1. Provides professional training opportunities through a yearly conference
2. Professionals in all areas of rehabilitation working together for the same cause
3. Awards professionals recognition and praise to those who work in the field of rehabilitation
4. Provides a team of dedicated professionals the opportunity to learn various new techniques and training in the field of rehabilitation through monthly meetings
5. Creates a supportive environment in which committed individuals in the field of rehabilitation share goals, values, and experiences.
6. An atmosphere of dignity, affirmation, celebration, and hope, promoting growth and fulfillment in ourselves, the field of rehabilitation and those we serve.

It's also fun.....

Scott & Bob having a little fun at the Awards dinner



MAR TRIVIA— What was the year the MAR By-Laws were first adopted?
Answer on page 4

AWARD RECIPIENTS 2010

Congratulations to the following Award winners. A plaque and letters of support were presented at the conference awards dinner in Missoula



Reg Gibbs – The Achievement Award



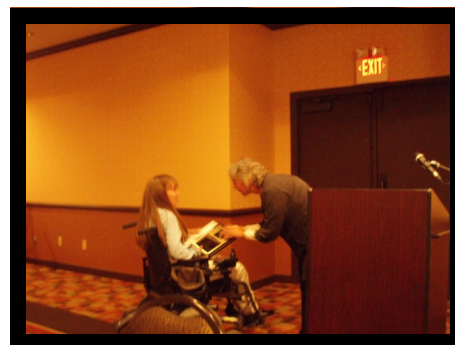
Tammy Hogan, Counselor of the Year



Mike Mayer – Dr. Louis Allard Award



Gloria Trevizo – Rehabilitation Award of the Year



Crystal Stipe – Employment Achievement Award



Letter from the President

Dear MAR members,

As a goal for this year, I am attempting to put together a MAR newsletter to assist in keeping us up to date on what each chapter is doing throughout the state. Your input is critical for helping us build new membership. My theme is "A Better MAR Experience". We as professionals in the field of rehabilitation always strive to learn as much as we can about how we can place people into jobs in the community. What this involves is good strong leadership, a sense of belonging and training opportunities to help us continue to grow as an organization.

My first promise to the current board is that we would do all our meetings via conference call technology. Why not, we are all connected to the internet and computers so why not do long distance meetings. Of course, the face to face meetings are fun but just to travel around the state is a burden for many. We are also hoping that these long distance meetings will encourage more of you to be involved in the continued growth and leadership of this organization. So think about next year and how you can make a difference to MAR by coming onto the board in a leadership role.

My second promise is to share ideas with vocational rehabilitation specialists and respect their opinions and input. We as a professional organization value your ideas and expertise in the field. Please email me with your ideas so I can put together a newsletter with substance. Share it with others around the state in webinars, email and at conference training. Networking is key to our success.

Finally, my ultimate goal is to build better membership recruitment at the local level. In the chapter reports the most successful chapters provide a monthly speaker or training. We all have a wealth of resources in our areas and sometimes just having a person with a disability share about their vocational experiences inspire us to do more in our jobs. Our organization is supposed to be comprised of vocational rehabilitation counselors, orientation and mobility specialists, independent living specialists, vocational evaluators, job placement specialists, job coaches, social workers, teachers, students of rehabilitation, and rehabilitation program support staff and administrators. Who's missing from this group that could be a member of MAR? Whatever you do, ask people to join. There are professionals in our field that just need a personal invitation from you.

I look forward to a great year and truly have a wonderful board to work with this year. Thank you so much for electing me to represent you as your president.

Martha Ripley, MAR President, Employment Consultant, Opportunity Resources Inc., Missoula, Montana. 406-329-1727 or marthar@orimt.org.



BOARD MEMBER PROFILE—Martha Ripley

Martha Ripley joined Opportunity Resources as an employment consultant in March 2005. Before that she worked for Nelson Personnel temporary agency for five years. Martha has a Masters in Business Education from Central Washington University and has taught Business courses in high school and college. Her passion is networking to help people be successful in careers. She is a member of Missoula Businesswomen's Network, Rotary Club of Missoula, Missoula Community Chorus and First Presbyterian church. She lives with her mother, Martha "Mom" and two West Highland terriers Maddie and Katie. She has been a member of MAR since 2007.

MAR BOARD MEETING DATES

Meeting Dates January 13, April 14 and July 7

Meeting times 11:30-1:00 pm

All meetings will be done via conference calls this year

2010 Treasurer's Report by Brook Hodge

EXPENSES	2010 BUDGET	TOTALS
Licenses, Fees	\$165.00	\$15.00
Lobbyist Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00
Public Relations	\$0.00	\$0.00
MAR Board Meeting Costs	\$300.00	\$0.00
Letterhead, envelopes, brochures	\$50.00	\$103.00
Membership Card Printing	\$0.00	\$29.99
Bank Related Charges	\$50.00	\$0.00
Postage, Stamps	\$50.00	\$35.20
Office Supplies	\$25.00	\$407.27
Donations, Sponsorships, Scholarships	\$0.00	\$0.00
2010 Mar Conference Start Up Costs	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
TOTAL 2010 Mar Conference Expenses	\$16,000.00	\$17,999.91
2010 Conference Awards	\$350.00	\$267.00
Website Fees/Expenses	\$150.00	\$135.00
Candy Bars	\$700.00	\$700.00
St. Patrick's Day - Vendor License \$40, \$25 for change, Marcy Reimb. \$84	\$149.00	\$149.00
Fun Night Expenses - MCT/Bits and Pieces	\$1,500.00	\$2,086.90
R Campaign	\$0.00	\$0.00
CRCC Application Fee	\$65.00	\$65.00
Reimbursement Basket Raffle		\$260.00
TOTAL EXPECTED EXPENSES		
Total expenses by quarter	\$21,554.00	\$24,253.27
EXPECTED REVENUES	BUDGET	TOTALS
Membership Dues/Conference Registrations	\$17,500.00	\$10,634.00
Interest on Money Market Accounts	\$10.00	\$0.68
MAR Conference Donations/Booth Rentals	\$8,000.00	\$6,825.00
MAR Conference Raffle/Baskets	\$1,000.00	\$800.00
Reimbursement for Office Supplies		\$11.00
Candy Bars	\$1,200.00	\$1,100.00
Butte - St. Patrick's Day Fundraising		\$371.00
R Campaign	\$200.00	\$344.36
2009 Conference Income		\$7,773.13
Reimbursement from Bayern and MTC (deposits)		\$650.00
TOTAL EXPECTED REVENUES		
Total revenues collected by quarter	\$27,910.00	\$28,509.17

Many Thanks to our 2010 Conference sponsors. We could not have done this conference without tremendous support and fundraising efforts. The following businesses truly stepped up to help us financially this year:

1st Interstate Bank, Coca-Cola Refreshment, Community Medical Center, Conventional Visitors Bureau, Gene Schiedermayer, Good Food Store, Highlander Beer, Job Connection, Lori Cummings/Quality Maintenance, Missoula Downtown Association, MonTech, Northwestern Energy, Opportunity Resources, VR Council, Young's Market of Montana