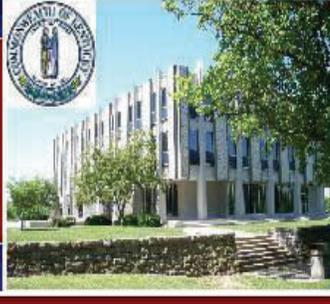


ESTABLISHED BY THE KY GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1990

# KBRC

Spring / Summer NEWSLETTER

WE LISTEN TO EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

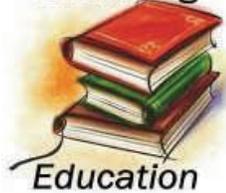
The Kentucky Board of Respiratory Care is a Government Agency that regulates respiratory care practitioners and their services. The KBRC was established in 1990 to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky from unsafe practitioners and practices.

## KBRC NEWSLETTER 2009 Summer Edition

### Board Information

Tamara McDaniel, *RRT*  
Chairman  
 Jeff W. Knight, *RRT*  
Vice-Chairman  
 B.T. Westerfield, *M.D., F.C.C.P.*  
Board Member  
 James P. Bronson, Jr. *RRT*  
Board Member  
 David Hasselbacher, *M.D.*  
Board Member  
 Klaus O. Becker, Citizen at Large, *RRT*  
Board Member  
 Janet R. Vogt, *RRT*  
Board Member  
 Cheryl Lalonde, *AAG*  
Attorney  
 Peggy Lacy Moore  
Executive Director  
 Rick L. Rose  
Administrative Assistant

### *Continuing*



### STRICT CEU POLICY WILL BE ENFORCED ON ALL 2010 AND FUTURE RENEWALS.

The KBRC will strictly enforce the regulations on CEU submissions during the 2010 renewal cycle. The KBRC will no longer accept CEUs which were obtained **after Dec. 31** for use during the renewal cycle. Be sure to read the **KAR 29:050 Regulation on continuing education** Section 2. Accrual of Continuing Education Units Mandatory; Computation of Accrual.

- (1) A minimum of twenty-four (24) continuing education units shall be accrued by each person holding mandatory certification during the two (2) year certification period for renewal.
- (2) The certification period shall be January 1 of one (1) year through December 31 of the following calendar year. Note: (This is for CEU submission only. Licensure expiration will remain Jan. 30.)
- (3) All units shall be in or related to the field of respiratory care.



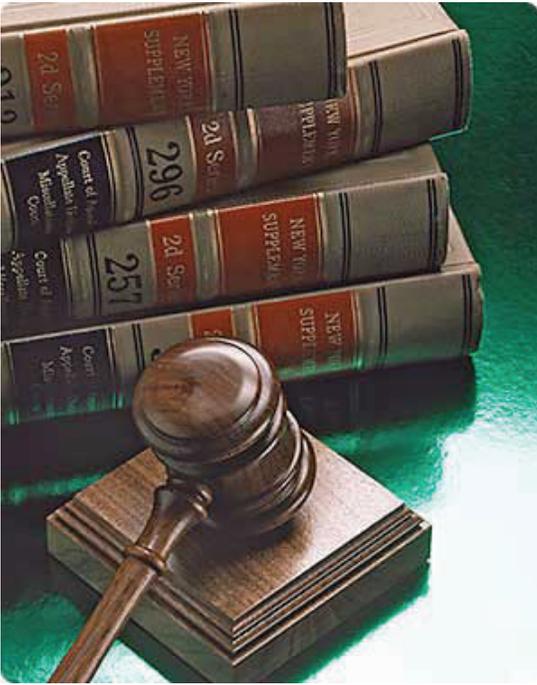
### THE KBRC WILL PROCESS AUDITS IN FEBRUARY 2010 AFTER THE RENEWAL CYCLE IS COMPLETED

The KBRC will send out random audits in February after the renewal cycle is completed. Make sure all CEUs are available to submit copies in case you receive an audit form in the mail. CEUs that are submitted with a date of completion after December 31 and up to the expiration date of licensure will not be accepted. The KBRC requires therapists to get their CEUs within a two year or licensed time period. A license issued does not guarantee that the license cannot be revoked due to failing the audit process. Take care of CEUs early and if you have questions contact the KBRC Office.



The KBRC Office can be reached at the numbers listed below.

**Board Office:**  
(859) 246-2747, Fax:  
(859) 246-2750 or  
online at: <http://kbrc.ky.gov>



## **Be Aware If You Do Not Renew And Attempt To Work Without A License**

### **(Lapsed Licensure - No Licensure)**

Too many folks are not aware of expiration dates. At the February 2007 meeting the Board discussed guidelines for legal counsel to take actions against individuals who have worked without proper license. The Board charged legal counsel and staff to issue Agreed Orders to those individuals found to have worked illegally, with suspensions of up to two (2) weeks and fines up to \$750 (\$50 per day). Any other lapse for therapists fined over \$750 and suspended for more than two (2) weeks, would need approval by the Board at its next scheduled meeting before a license could be re-issued or re-instated to work again.

## **UNDERSTANDING THE LICENSURE PROCESS**

### **(From Student to Mandatory)**

Again, we want you to review these important steps for your respiratory license. These steps are protection for everyone in the process from the student to the hospital which employs the therapist. The KBRC would like to explain this process in detail:

**Student or Limited Mandatory License: (Cost: \$50.00)** If the individual is a student and he or she plans to work or needs to work, the student must have this license. It is a 3 yr. license which allows the student to work under direct supervision in the respiratory field up to the date of graduation or in some cases, passage of NBRC CRT exam. If a student graduates earlier than the 3 yr. expiration date listed on the student's card, then the remainder of the student license is void.

If a student takes the NBRC CRT exam early and passes, then the student license is void as well. In each case, the way to avoid being caught without appropriate license is to prepare for the next step of the process in advance. The student should print out one of the following license applications and send it to the KBRC with proper payment and required documents prior to graduation or taking the NBRC exam.

1. If the individual plans to work after graduation and prepares for the NBRC exam, then print out a **(\$85) temporary license** and mail in with school confirmation of date of graduation and payment. The application should also contain a fax number of the current employer to whom to fax an approval letter.
2. When the individual takes and passes the NBRC exam, please fax or mail the **Mandatory license** with copy of your NBRC test score sheet, payment and a fax number to fax an approval letter to your employer.

(Continued on next page)

**Temporary License: (Cost: \$85.00)** Is a six (6) month license which begins at your official graduation date and expires in six (6) months or when the individual passes his or her NBRC CRT exam. To avoid a lapse without appropriate license, the individual should prepare for the next step in the process by filling out the **Mandatory application** and sending it to the KBRC prior to taking the CRT exam. Once you have passed, fax a copy of the CRT exam test score sheet to the KBRC office. Be sure to add a fax number of employer so letter can be faxed after processing our records.

**Mandatory Licensure: (Cost: \$125.00)** The final step in the process. Provides licensure status to the therapist for a span of two (2) yrs. The new therapist will enter into the cycle and be given the remainder of the first year and all of the following year, after which the full 2 year cycle will begin. The therapist is required to renew the license every 2 years by online renewal system or by printing out a renewal form from KBRC website during renewal window of Nov. 1st – January 30th. Therapists who renew as Active status will be required to pay \$75.00 renewal fee and submit 24 current CEUs which must be completed before December 30th, prior to the therapist's license expiration date on January 30th. Therapists, who wish to go to Inactive status will have to pay \$25.00 renewal fee and are not expected to provide CEU information at that time.



## **54th International Respiratory Congress, Dec. 13 -16, 2008 Anaheim, CA**



The friendship between Klaus and Sam goes back 40 years. In 1969, when Klaus resigned his position as Technical Director of Inhalation Therapy at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, he was succeeded by Sam. Both of them were also elected President of the Illinois Alpha Chapter of the AAIT (American Association for Inhalation Therapy). The Alpha Chapter was the first Chapter of The AAIT, when it was founded in 1947.

From left to right:

Klaus O. Becker, RRT, KBRC Board Member and former Vice Chairman, Sam P. Giordano, MBA, RRT, FAARC, AART Executive Director and CEO and Peggy Lacy Moore, KBRC Executive Director at the NBRC Reception in Anaheim.

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR KBRC INVESTIGATORS**

The KBRC has added some new names to its investigative staff and gave them the opportunity to take advantage of a superior investigative training program during the *Kentucky Basic NCIT Program* hosted by the *Clear Organization* held in Louisville on June 1-3, 2009. Current investigator *Tom Floro, RRT*, and the KBRC Board and staff would like to welcome the following individuals to our investigative team. *Mark A. Vargas, RRT, Joan L. Kruse, RRT* and *Bryan W. Tudor, RRT*. They will bring lots of knowledge and skills to the cases they investigate.



## **Respiratory Therapists - Health Reform Creates Opportunity**

### **Ask for Inclusion of Respiratory Initiative**

Health reform is being debated in Congress right now and will be a hot topic until mid-July when a draft of the legislation is expected to be completed. There are also bills in Congress, S 343 (Senate) and HR 1077 (House) that are called the Medicare Respiratory Therapy Initiative.

The way that Congress works is to include other health-related bills into a larger health reform package. We want to ensure that the provisions of S 343 and HR 1077 are included in the health reform bill.

### **What will this do for you?**

It will allow you, as a respiratory therapist, to more easily work in all health care settings and have your services be reimbursed under Medicare. You can read the details of the Medicare Respiratory Therapy Initiative on the AARC's website.

At this time – from now until mid-July – we need to work to ensure that S 343 and HR 1077 are included as part of health reform. You can help by writing to your congressman or your Senators.



**(See the upcoming KBRC Board meeting schedule for 2009 at the “About Us” page of our website.) <http://kbrc.ky.gov>**



## **IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS**

**2009 Respiratory Care Week - October 25-31**

**AARC 55th International Respiratory Congress**

**Dec. 5-8 2009**

**Location: San Antonio, Texas**

**CRT content outline becomes effective July 10, 2009**

**RRT content outlines become effective January 1, 2010**

**KSRC State Convention**

**Sept. 10-11, 2009**

**Location: Four Points Sheraton**

**1938 Stanton Way**

**Lexington, KY 40511**



## **RESPIRATORY CARE Journal Now on Twitter**

**June 18, 2009**

Twitter is opening up new ways of communicating and new ways of sharing news. RESPIRATORY CARE journal has joined in by launching their Twitter presence this week.

Follow along with editor Dean Hess and other journal staff as they give you previews of papers to come and use the journal's Twitter presence to discuss other interesting aspects of health care.

Twitter is a short burst of information; you can only write 140 characters' worth at a time. To participate in Twitter, you'll need your own personal Twitter account and then you'll need to "follow" RESPIRATORY CARE on Twitter. Their page name is "respcare."

AARC has had its Twitter in place for three months and uses it as a way of sharing news, announcing new services, or sending kudos to members who have passed their test or are commenting on their day.

## **A Lower Drinking Age?**

Article from Brian Fingerson, RPh



Most alcoholics start drinking during their teen years, but the disease can also strike those who begin using alcohol at a younger age – and experts say the problem often goes unnoticed.

The underage-drinking rate in the U.S. has remained steady in recent years, but some research indicates that youths are starting to drink at a younger age. One study, from the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, concluded that about 10 percent of nine-year-olds had consumed more than a sip of alcohol. And research from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism indicates that children who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to have drinking problems than those who start drinking at age 21 or later.

"A third of kids ages 12 to 17 had their first drink before 13," said Susan Foster, director of policy research for the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University. "That's about 6.4 million kids; many more than there have been historically. Very young drinkers are a huge concern."

Young drinkers often get started with alcohol use by getting drinks from friends or family liquor cabinets. Polls have shown that youths ages 13 and up say it is easy to get alcohol from adults – and sometimes their own parents, who may themselves have drinking problems. The thinking of some parents is that it's OK for them to "teach" their children how to handle drinking by letting their children drink in the home.

"The traditional thinking is that risk factors for alcohol abuse show up in adolescence," said Robert A. Zucker, Ph.D., director of the Addiction Research Center at the University of Michigan. "But, actually, they can show up earlier – in children 9 or younger, even in preschoolers."

There is a great deal of information available on how consumption of mind or mood-altering substances can change the way the brain develops in people even on into their early to mid-twenties. The longer one delays drinking or drugging the better.

If you or someone you know exhibits signs and symptoms of substance use problems with alcohol or other drugs, you may confidentially contact Brian Fingerson, RPh at 502-749-8385 or at [kyprn@insightbb.com](mailto:kyprn@insightbb.com).

## **Congratulations to the New Chair & Vice Chair of the KBRC**

**Tami McDaniel was elected Chairman of the Kentucky Board of Respiratory Care on August 13, 2009.**

**Jeff W. Knight was elected Vice-Chairman of the Kentucky Board of Respiratory Care on August 13, 2009.**



If you did not get a chance to read the last issue of the KBRC Newsletter, You can still find it available at the KBRC website: <http://kbrc.ky.gov>  
The KBRC website can help you find answers regarding your licensure, scope of practice, continuing education and verification questions. You may contact us at: (859) 246-2747 Fax: (859) 246-2750 with questions or inquiries.

*The KBRC Newsletter is produced by Rick Rose and edited by Klaus O. Becker and Peggy Lacy Moore.*

*The KBRC Board is self-supporting and receives no general fund tax appropriation. It is funded through fees assessed for licensing its professionals.*



If you want to file a complaint or address an issue of concern to the Board, submit a written statement with as much detail as possible including your name, names involved in the complaint or issue, phone numbers and summary of your complaint and mail to the KBRC office at the address below. Attention: Peggy Lacy Moore, Executive Director.

**KENTUCKY BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE**  
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