

A Message From Our President

Wow... its already February. We've had a busy few months, but we've made it through to 2007 and there are some great things coming up for our group.

We are a rather diverse group, scattered around the board, and if you weren't able to attend some of our group activities you may not know the people who have volunteered to serve on the AAPSP committees. If you have a chance, take a moment and introduce yourself to your Rep if you don't already know them. If you're unsure of which Group you belong in, you can take a look at the Group listing on our website at www.aapsp.org.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the volunteers who have given their time to help with our organization. We're a very active group; just take a look at some of the things we are involved in throughout the board:

Cathy Chester

Committee Updates and Notices

Social Committee:

We have our Night at the Races coming up soon. Sandi Douglas is coordinating this event for us once more. It's always a great social event, good food and fun. If you haven't already contacted Sandi, please do so quickly!

Details on future PD sessions, and the AGM will be coming up soon. Your Reps will forward information as it becomes available.

Negotiation Committee:

In February of 2006 we completed our last negotiations. Part of our new information process is to disseminate all information electronically, instead of mailing a copy to every member. Details are posted on our website. www.aapsp.org Follow the navigation panel on the left side. Sharon P is our Negotiations Committee chairperson.

We will be gathering our group together again soon, so if you have any ideas please let us know by either contacting your Rep. or a member on the Executive.

In addition to these, here are some other committees where we are active:

Mutual Concerns:

This is a meeting of our Executive with Beth Strong to discuss issues and concerns that have been brought to our attention from our members.

Education Week:

We have the assistance of Jason Rake who not only gives a perspective from the AAPSP but lends this group his expertise in Graphic design.

Professional Development Committee:

Sharon P. has been working along with Jason Rake and Fred Wideman to bring together some exciting opportunities for our members. Stay tuned for details, and check the website often.

Committee Updates and Notices (continued)

Newsletter:

We'd like your input. What would you like to see in your newsletter?

The intent has been to publish a 2 page flyer approximately every two months, in conjunction with website updates. This is your newsletter so tell us what you want to see in it, or if this is not something you feel we need to provide. Thanks again to Jason Rake who is helping out where he can.

Job Evaluation Committee:

This committee has three of our members on it, and it is the duty of this committee to read and review submissions where positions have changed, or new ones created. This committee is chaired by Pat Heath, and has a balance of 3 management team members along with 3 AAPSP members. Currently we have Sharon P, Dave Gosset and Cathy Chester as our AAPSP members, along with Mark Atkinson as our Alternate.

Website:

Rob Kamphius has graciously offered to be our web-master, and is keen to hear from our members any suggestions on what we can add to enhance the site. Please contact your Reps and give them your ideas.

Award of Distinction Committee:

Cheryl McKenzie represents the AAPSP on this committee. Cheryl herself is a past recipient and has volunteered again this year. As a past nominee, I can tell you this is a very uplifting event to get involved with. If you haven't had an opportunity to get involved with the Award of Distinction, or if you have a suggestion on a nominee feel free to contact any of our Reps for more information.

EAP (Employee Assistance Program) Committee:

Phil Hicks has volunteered to sit on this committee. The committee meets regularly to discuss the details of our EAP plan and advises our group of any changes by way of our Rep.

United Way Campaign:

Each year Thames Valley is active in assisting with this notable charity. This year we have Jason Rake participating as our Representative from AAPSP.

Notices:

I'd like to send along a heartfelt congratulations to Karen Erskine. Karen is our Disability Management Officer and was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Ontario Occupational Health Nurses' Association this past summer.

New Employees:

I'd like to thank Steve Slaney and Phil Hicks who have been working on a design for an information pamphlet. Out of discussions in the Reps meetings, we felt that new hires, casuals and temporary AAPSP employees might benefit from a welcoming brochure telling them who we are, what we offer and how to reach us. More details will be available soon.

Other Stuff:

In closing, let me give one more push for our website. We hope to be sending out this newsletter about every other month.

New developments, updates and other timely information will be posted on the website as they become available. Book mark the site now, and check for notices regarding our social activities soon. www.aapsp.org

Vice President	Nancy McWebb
Past President	Phil Hicks
Secretary	Sharon Piwowarczyk
Treasurer	Nancy Hindmarsh
Auditor	Teresa Muscat
Group A	Judy Berkin and Lisa Smith
Group B	Jason Rake and Fred Wideman
Group C	Stacey Shoemaker
Group D	Kevin Noble and Joe Van Steinburg
Group E	Janet Ward