

NJD-HCF COMMUNIQUE



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August 2008

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

By Darlene A. Morrison, MS, MBA, RD

Inside this issue:

Chairman's Corner	1-2
Fall Seminar	2
Past Chairman's Corner	3
On the Horizon	4
Newly Elected Board Members	5-6
Membership Committee Update	6
Liaison Committee Update	7

I hope this newsletter finds many of you lounging on a beach, drinking a tropical drink and enjoying the summer with friends and family. What an honor to serve as your next Chairman. Please join me in extending a warm thank you to Josie Velez, for her hard work and dedication to our organization this last year. Josie was instrumental in making our 40th Anniversary celebration memorable and we rewarded her outstanding efforts with responsibility for the newly created Historian position! So, smile for the camera when she comes around to memorialize our successes.

Our annual Turnover Dinner was held this year at the Hilton in Woodbridge on June 19, 2008. Josie Velez, past Chair, hosted this event with such grace and provided each attendee with an exquisite pearl necklace from her native country. Although the food was sumptuous, I missed our traditional brunch at Rods' Steak and Seafood Grille in Morristown, with its' unique atmosphere.

In our busy lives and computer proliferation, how many of you have taken advantage of membership in e-mail group, list serves for dietitians? I am very grateful to Dorothy O'Connell for steering me in this direction. The Consultant Dietitians in Health Care Facilities, a practice group of ADA, has three separate electronic on-line discussion groups (Forum, Homecare and Corrections). This list serve has been valuable to me as a professional and has afforded me the opportunity to learn and expand my knowledge. It's amazing how much you can learn just by reading questions and responses posed by members. Although you can be inundated with a lot of e-mails, the benefit far outweighs this minor inconvenience. If you are not interested in a particular topic, simply delete it. I have learned so much from my peers and colleagues to include the latest in research and development.

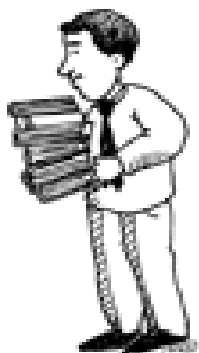
A great website to check out is <http://www.rd411.com>! This website contains a wealth of free downloadable, peer-reviewed materials for nutritional professionals to customize for their own needs. These include policies, treatment protocols, in-services, patient handouts, professional resources, etc. RD411's philosophy is "the less time you spend reinventing the wheel, the more time you'll have for your patients, clients and yourself and the more successful each individual dietitian is, the more successful the profession is as a whole." Talking about networking and sharing, if anyone is planning to attend ADA-FNCE in Chicago, October 25-28th, let us know as there is a group of us scheduled to attend.



Chairman's Corner (Cont.)

By Darlene A. Morrison, MS, MBA, RD

I hope to see all of you at our Fall Seminar, September 29, 2008. Dr. Ronni Chernoff, PhD, RD, LD, CSG, FADA will present a full day seminar on "Nutritional Issues in Older Adults." Dr. Chernoff is a prolific writer and renowned speaker. She has been very active in our professional organizations to include President of the American Dietetic Association from 1996-1997 and she received the ADA Medallion Award for service to the profession of dietetics, last year at the 2007 FNCE in Philadelphia. This is one session that you are not going to want to miss!



Just a reminder that the Executive Board approved a \$1,000.00 budget to update the In-service Lending Library. Please contact Linda Bartlett, RD if you have any suggested purchases. A pre-ordered copy of the 2008 FNCE Full Conference CD-Rom has been reserved to add to the Library for the benefit those unable to attend this year's ADA conference.

Articles in this newsletter are for your review and not necessarily the opinion of this editor or this practice group.

Mark Your Calendar!

Monday, September 29,
2008

NJDHCF FALL
SEMINAR

PRINCETON, NJ

Deadline for the December
Newsletter is November 15,
2008

Please send all articles or
announcements to:

Natalie Zetter, M.S., R. D.
C.D.N.

181 Fern Road
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

OR

Send Email to:
NataliePZ@aol.com



Past Chairman's Corner

By Josefina G. Velez, M.S., R.D.,DHCFA

On April 24, 2008, for the 40th anniversary of our organization -NJDHCF -many board members pitched in to help celebrate it .For this reason, we certainly succeeded in celebrating it with a BANG!!!!!!!!!! Thanks to all the help of our board members. Paula Hopkins assisted by her husband, made us a beautiful banner. Paula also baked a very healthy version of a Strawberry Shortcake that was scrumptious. Paula, as Chair of the Awards/Recognition Committee also selected a very appropriate gift to all past presidents of NJDHCF . Each one was presented with a silver card holder with NJDHCF engraved on it. I know I will cherish it as a souvenir of the many years NJDHCF touched our lives. Vanita Manchanda with the help of her husband, brought in " Sparkling Champagne" (non-alcoholic) which was served in champagne glasses to all the attendees. The Dining Room was reserved solely for our group which we decked with floral arrangements in addition to the balloons we used to decorate the room to add a very festive touch to the occasion. Mary Chambers went out of her way to reach out and invite Maureen Loughney, a very dynamic past president who retired. We appreciated her gracing our occasion with her presence. Our CD-HCF Area Coordinator, Michelle A. Fratianne also honored us with her presence inspite of her very hectic schedule. We want to thank our founding members, Harriet Kahn, Linda Gershen, Liz Dunnell who organized the NJD-HCF through the inspiration and encouragement of AnnWitkowski, one of the State Surveyors then.

Our speakers, Jeanne Caruso, RN, RACCT who spoke on "The Dietitian , the MDS and the Culture Change in the Nursing Home" and Jackie Nielsen, MS, RD, CDE who spoke on "A Day in the Life of Parkinson's Disease Resident and Appropriate Nutrition Management" inspired us to make culture changes and provide better care of our patients with Parkinson's disease.

With the rising prices of gas, food and necessities of life, do not hesitate to log in to our website and click at the Buyer's Edge, a consumer buying service that guarantees the lowest prices for major appliances, TV, new and used cars, furniture, travel luggage and much more for our members and their families.

As outgoing Chairman, I would like to thank all the members of the board and members of the NJD-HCF who in one way or the other helped me accomplish my goals during my term. I felt very privileged to work as your Chair and I found it very challenging and rewarding. I will continue to serve the organization as "Historian"and I will do my best keep records of what we are and what we have been for posterity and a documentation of our future achievements. I am confident that our incoming Chairman Darlene Morrison will continue to pursue our commitment to the advancement of our profession and our organization. Congratulations Darlene, and more power to you.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!!!!!!!!!



On the Horizon

By Kathleen Carr Mahmoud, M.S., R. D. Chairman-Elect

After more than 20 years as a dietitian, I am pleased to say that I am especially looking forward to this coming year, and to what events and developments are on the horizon.

As we know, the NJDA leadership and Licensure Committee members have re-introduced a licensure bill, "The Dietitian/Nutritionist Licensing Act", numbered A2933/S1941. The committee continues to seek additional assembly and senate sponsors for the bill, as well as NJDA members willing to contact their local legislature to enlist their support. On Monday, August 25, Rosemary O'Dea and Pat Utke (both long-time members of our practice group) are hosting a wine and cheese get-together for members in NJDA Region One interested in working together in support of the licensure bill. Please e-mail Rosemary at rosemaryodea@comcast.net if you'd like to attend this informal event or obtain more information on how to become part of this exciting process. I hope to see you there!

Another fantastic development is the inclusion of Medical Nutrition Therapy in the most recent Medicare legislation passed by Congress in July. This bill expands reimbursement for MNT by Medicare for the prevention of illness or disability, and expects little delay in the implementation of new provisions for MNT for preventive services. I am anxious to see what impact this rather broad expansion of reimbursement opportunities may have on the services are prepared to provide our senior population both in and out of institutions.

I am eager to attend the ADA Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo in October, and meet other consultants from around the country at the several educational and social events planned. As Darlene, our Chair, and I meet our counterparts from other regions, we hope to exchange ideas on how to assure our local organizations meet the current needs of our members.

The newly elected board of NJCD-HCF consists of an exciting combination of founding, long term, and newer members of our group- all eager to contribute their combined expertise, time, and positive energy toward the advancement of our practice group and its members. I thank each of you for your confidence in my ability to have such an important role in these efforts, and hope to see you in September at what promises to be an exciting Fall Meeting.



**Congratulations to Our Newly
Elected Board Members!**

Chairman

Darlene Morrison, MS MBA RD

Chairman-Elect

Kathleen Carr Mahmoud, MS RD

Secretary

Sheryl Saretsky, MA RD CDN

Treasurer

Elizabeth Rodriguez, MS RD LD

Treasurer-elect

Cheryl Ann Macellaro, RD

Liaison Committee

Julieta Songco, MS Ed RD

Legislative Committee

Mary Piciocco, MA RD

Diet Manual

Vanita Manchanda, MS RD

Marketing

Elsie Nucum-Allen, MS RD

Public Relations Newsletter

Natalie Zetter, MS CDN RD

Quality Assurance

Liz Dunnell, MS Ed RD

Membership

Harriet Kahn, MA RD

Awards/Recognition

Paula Hopkins, RD

In-service Materials

Linda Bartlett, RD

Credentials

Christine Colvin, RD LD

Historian

Josephine Velez, MS RD DHCFA

By-Laws

Susan Patla-Leary, MS RD



Congratulations to Our Newly Elected Board Members! (Cont.)

Nominating Committee

Nimi Bhagawan, MS RD LD

Mary Mazza, RD LD

Linda Courey-Degnan, MS RD

Past chairman/advisor

Josephine Velez, MS RD DHCFA

Membership Committee Report

By Harriet Kahn, MA RD

Our membership drive for 2008-2009 has ended. The list of paid members has been sent to the printer, and the directory will be sent to current members. The membership list will also be made available on our web site.

We currently have a total of 111 members, 9 of whom are new and we welcome them. Late membership will be accepted. Your name will be added to the membership list on our web site as soon as membership dues are mailed to me.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer, I will see you in the fall.

Liaison Committee Update

By Juliet Songco, MS ED RD

We are reminding our members and readers to please support and acknowledge the messages you get from NJDA regarding our **licensure activities and updates**.

If any member or reader observed any infringement act that conflict with the integrity of our profession, please report it to yours truly or NJDA c/o Karen Ensle/Denise Langevin for appropriate and immediate handling of these issues.

ADA sends occasional update on what's happening in DC @ the Capitol Hill pertaining to legislative issues like the Farm Bill and reconsideration on the Medicare coverage.

Our scheduled seminars for next year will be forwarded to NJDA for general information and participation. This is to continue our successful status as the sole, active practice group in New Jersey.

Hoping you all have a good summer so far. And see you all in the fall!!



40th Anniversary Pictures

Submitted by Josefina G. Velez, M.S., R.D., DHCFA



Paula Hopkins, Chair of Recognition and Awards Committee, presenting recognition gifts to the Founders of NJDHCF 40 years ago, Liz Dunnell, Harriet Kahn and Linda Gershen



Josie Velez, Denise Lasngevin, NJDA President-Elect, and Barbara D'Asaro, Chairman of Diet Manual Committee



Mary Chambers, Liz Dunnell, Juliet Songco, Maureen Loughney (Guest-Retired Past President of NJDHCF), Josie Velez, Barbara D'Asaro



Josie Velez, Chair, Board Members, and Past Presidents of NJDHCF were recognized with a gift in celebration of the 40th Anniversary.



Darlene Morrison, Incoming Chair, with National CDHCF Area 7 Coordinator Marianne Fratianne, and Josie Velez

NEW JERSEY DIETITIANS IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Presents Our Fall Seminar

" Nutritional Issues in Older Adults"

Fall Seminar

Monday, September 29, 2008

Princeton, NJ



NJD-HCF

c/o MRN Web Designs

27 Jocynda Rd.

Flanders, NJ 07836