

NJ/EPA TRA Newsletter

Addendum

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Fall 2006

TR Week . . . It was a “Vacation”!

Submitted by Lucy Orr Tomczynski, CTRS, CCLS
Voorhees Pediatric Facility, Voorhees, NJ



Like many of you, our facility provides diversional activities, therapeutic activities, holiday celebrations and local community outings. And yes, we’re often labeled the “play” people, but how often can we say we have provided our clients with a vacation! A vacation with more therapeutic value than relaxation; a vacation with fun, pizzazz, function and more; actually various vacations in one week with valuable contributions from the professionals with which you work.

Throughout TR Week, Voorhees Pediatric Facility toured many vacation destinations to bring a different twist to the therapeutic recreation services we provide. Here’s a glimpse at our busy itinerary:

Monday – France

“Le Tour de Voorhees” Race
Afternoon wine and cheese complete with
grape crushing.



Tuesday - Caribbean Islands

Dance to the Island Beat
Coconut Bowling
Relax in the Ball Pool
Taste of the Islands – Mango, Kiwi, and Strawberry Water ice



Wednesday – Hawaii

Hula Hooping contest
The Five Senses of Pineapple Surprise



Thursday – Las Vegas, Nevada

“What happens in Vegas, Stays in Vegas” –
Need I say more . . . ?



Friday – Africa versus Australia Survivor competition



VS



WHEW! You’re right we were exhausted – but not from the traveling, from having fun! You may even be wondering, “WOW how long did it take to plan all these activities?” Well, we – the TR Department - didn’t. We opened the idea up to all the departments (with a little coaxing) and each department planned their own day.

There’s no better way to educate than to have someone else walk in your shoes. Our therapeutic recreation department was on hand to guide the activities toward meeting each participant’s level and goals, to make suggestions, and provide adaptations, but each discipline put their own creativity in to the event and really had fun doing so. In addition, we maintained an informational table complete with handouts, puzzles, posters, etc. to allow for more details about therapeutic recreation to be included.

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“TR Week . . . It was a vacation!”

Whether you are in long term care, rehabilitation, psych or another therapeutic recreation program, I am sure you are dedicated to your clients and continuously have difficulty marketing your profession. Next year try going on a “vacation” during TR Week with your co-workers, they may surprise you with their input and enthusiasm. There are many ways we have celebrated TR Week or have read about over the years. This year’s celebration was one of my favorites!!



Submitted by Lucy Orr Tomczynski, CTRS, CCLS

Our new graduates are upon us and ready to embark on new careers. Please join us in welcoming them into this new and exciting profession of Therapeutic Recreation. Remember to reach out to these new grads and offer support and mentoring.

*Congratulations and welcome Class of 2006!
Good luck in your new endeavors.*

We would like to extend a special THANK YOU to the universities within the counties served by NJ/EPA TRA who set the foundation for these new professionals specifically: Temple University, Kean University, East Stroudsburg University, Messiah College, Montclair University, York College of Pennsylvania and Lincoln University.

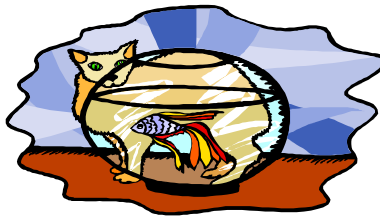
Silent Auction Donations



It is time to start collecting all of your wonderful donations to contribute to the highly anticipated Silent Auction held each year at the NJ/EPA TRA Annual Fall Conference in Princeton, NJ. Let’s make this one the best yet! Please contact Lucy Orr Tomczynski, CTRS, CCLS at lucyctrs@msn.com if you would like to donate items for the silent auction.

**"FILL THE FISHBOWL"
WILL CONTINUE
For the Medicare Project**

By Lucy Orr Tomczynski, NJ/EPA TRA Treasurer



Just a pocket of spare change can make a world of difference!
You can drop this change into the fishbowl at the upcoming Fall Conference in Princeton or checks can be mailed to me (made payable to NJ/EPA TRA of course):

Lucy Orr Tomczynski, CTRS, CCLS
17 Canidae Street
Burlington, NJ 08016

And remember, we'll match your donations. (We have just received our first mail-in donation - **THANK YOU** Kathy Elokdah!)

Our goal is to help ATRA meet their goal!

For more information on the Medicare Project,
please visit www.atra-tr.org.