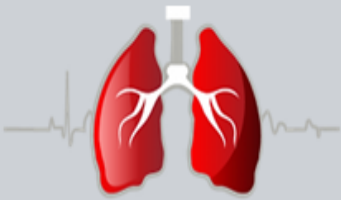


Volume 1, Issue 9

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

# Alabama Society for Respiratory Care

## The Results are in!

Please take the time to congratulate your newly elected 2025-2026 ASRC Board of Directors. They will begin their term January 1, 2025.

This is your newly elected board:

President - Robert Johnson

Past President - Ed Goodwin

President-Elect - Jerrod Isbell

Vice President—Christopher Carr Jr.

HOD Senior Representative - Jerry King

HOD Junior Representative - Megan Crumpton

Secretary - Riva McAlpine

Treasurer - Bob Crumpton

North District Reps - Jabril Cooper-Diamond and Wayne Byford

West Central District Reps - Amber Eddy and Angelia Stanton

Central District Reps - Alisha McGuire and Heath Miller

East Central District Reps - Shalanda Lee and Andres Crawley

Southwest District Rep - Byron Truelove

Southeast District Reps - Christy Smith and DeAnna Hodges

If you would like to get involved, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer for various committees, and we'd love to have more

therapists join us! Please reach out to the ASRC Executive Director, Jaime Goodwin, at [alsrcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:alsrcinfo@gmail.com)

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be nominated and also those who voted in the 2024 ASRC Elections! Voting is your chance to have a direct say in how our profession is represented across the state! The people you elect will serve as the voice of respiratory therapists in Alabama, making decisions that impact all of us. You must be a member to vote, but if you're already an AARC member, you're automatically a member of the ASRC! Being a part of the AARC also helps boost our national representation, which is so important for the future of respiratory therapy. Let's make sure our voices are heard both locally and nationally!



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## Happy Respiratory Care Week!

Happy early Respiratory Care Week from the ASRC! We want to take a moment to recognize and celebrate the incredible work you do every day. As respiratory therapists, your dedication and expertise are essential to improving the lives of your patients and making a difference in healthcare across Alabama. The week is about you—your hard work, your passion, and the impact you make in our communities. Thank you for all that you do, and let's continue to support and uplift one another in this amazing profession!



# ASRC Huntsville and Birmingham Mini-Conference

The recent ASRC mini-conferences in Huntsville and Birmingham were our final mini-conferences for 2024 and they were a success! We were in Huntsville in August and Birmingham in September, both with a wonderful group of professionals!

A huge thank you goes out to our amazing speakers who shared their knowledge and insights to better our practice. We also want to give a shoutout to our vendors for their support and for showcasing the latest and greatest in respiratory products and technology.

And, of course, we can't forget about you—the attendees! Your energy and dedication to growing in your profession are what make these events so successful. We truly appreciate your support and engagement!

If you weren't able to make it this time, don't worry—we've got more events coming next year. Stay tuned, and we hope to see you at the next ASRC gathering!



*Would you be interested in a custom car tag that proudly showcases your commitment to Respiratory Therapy? Personalized with a design that announces your dedication to your profession in Alabama. Stay tuned for more exciting details to come!*

# Alabama Asthma Coalition Summit

The recent Alabama Asthma Coalition Summit in Birmingham was a fantastic success, bringing together a diverse group of professionals and community members united by a common goal—addressing asthma in Alabama. Respiratory therapists, pharmacists, nurses, and other healthcare practitioners came out in full force, alongside engaged citizens, all eager to learn more about how we can work together to improve asthma care and education across the state.

The summit featured a variety of insightful presentations and the event served as a great platform for collaboration, allowing different healthcare disciplines and community leaders to share ideas and strategies for better managing Asthma in Alabama.

The energy and enthusiasm throughout the summit were truly inspiring, and we look forward to seeing the impact of these discussions in the future.

If you couldn't make it this year, keep an eye out for more events at <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/asthmacoalition/>





# Faculty and Student Update

The ASRC is actively working to create an Early Professionals Committee. This initiative is designed to increase student participation and provide a platform for future leaders in the field of respiratory care. Each program in Alabama will have the opportunity to send student representatives from their classes, ensuring that all voices are heard.

To support student engagement, committee meetings will be scheduled to accommodate students' busy lives, with a focus on flexibility and availability.

We are excited to welcome these emerging leaders!



The Shelton State Community College Respiratory Therapy Program Staff awarded NBRC Scholarship funds to the top academic Class of 2024 students based on their overall GPAs. Congratulations to SSCC RPT Program students Carley Small, Isis Marizette, and Christina Elliott (not pictured) for receiving an \$850 NBRC Scholarship this fall 2024 for their exceptional academic achievement.

Photo on the top right: UNA has accepted their second cohort! They began Respiratory Care courses in August, and are very excited to attend clinicals throughout the state!

Photo on the bottom right: Congratulations to UNA students Alexandria Hyde and Karlee Liverett who were awarded the John B. Rice scholarship.





# Faculty and Student Update



Emily Russell recently started as the Calhoun Community College Respiratory Therapy Director of Clinical Education! Congratulation!

CCC has received CoARC approval of their Letter of Intent and is actively working to complete the CoARC PSSR.

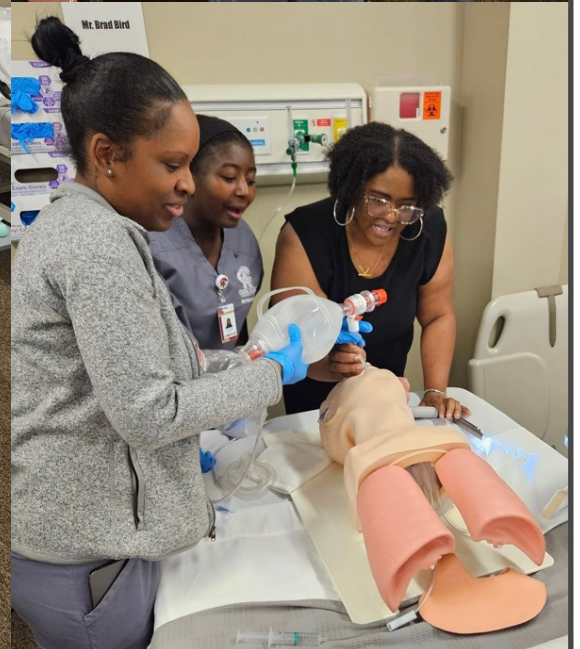


Congratulations to Corey Noles, who recently started as the UWA Respiratory Therapy Director of Clinical Education!

UWA CoARC accreditation site visit was Sep 9th & 10th and went well! Congratulations to Jerry King and Corey Noles on a great job!



Coastal Alabama Community College had their first Open House September 5th! It was a great success, as the students stepped up to host stations and present a Power-Point about the program. Way to go!





## ASRC Board Member Highlight: Wayne Byford, RRT

What started your path to Respiratory Therapy?

At the age of 14, I knew I wanted to work in the medical field immediately after I watched an extraordinary group of emergency room staff save my father's life while he was experiencing a massive heart attack. I knew then that was what I wanted to do, save lives.

What is your favorite thing about your career?

I learn something new every day.

What is your favorite part of being on the ARSC board?

It is such an honor to be on the ASRC board. There are so many ASRC members with so many gifts, talents, and strengths. Everyone is always so willing to share knowledge and information as well as experiences and being a member of ASRC as well as the board provides you with so many opportunities to do just that as well as you the same. Being able to collaborate with others on best practices, challenges, and educational opportunities for our profession is truly a blessing.

ing. I hope I can equally be the same for others.

How do you feel about the trajectory of the Respiratory Care Profession?

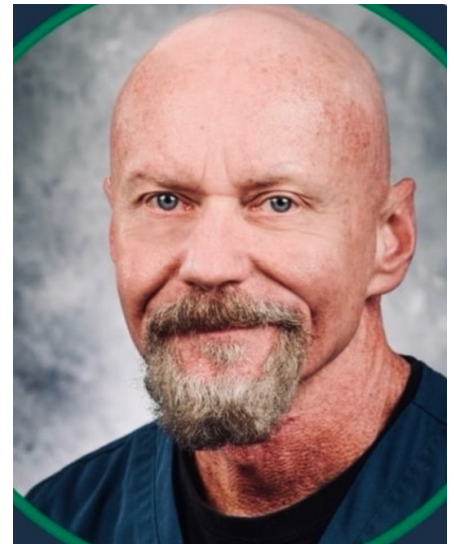
As technology continues to advance, I feel so too will our profession. In addition, I feel each day brings with it a better understanding of what our role provides to healthcare as well as its importance to those in our community and public. I truly believe by us joining together, we can each make a difference in promoting the growth of our profession even more.

Who is your hero?

Clark Kent; he wasn't much of a farmer but he figured out what his strengths were and used them toward conquering evil.

What did you want to do when you were young?

I wanted to be the captain pilot of what at that time was the 747 Jumbo Jet airplane, of course!



### ASRC BOARD MEMBER

**This Quarter we are highlighting Wayne Byford (North District) and Byron Truelove (Southwest). Both are incoming district representatives. We hope you enjoy getting to know your representatives and join us in welcoming them back!**

## ASRC Board Member Highlight: Byron Truelove, MBA/HCM, RRT-ACCS, RRT-NPS, RRT-SDS, RPFT

What is your favorite thing about your career?

I've been in a lot of different roles in my career as a respiratory therapist. In my current role as a teacher, one of my favorite things is witnessing students succeed; seeing them gain confidence and a deeper understanding of patient care. Beyond the classroom, I'm encouraged by seeing dreams fulfilled. Just hoping I played a little part in their journey.

How do you feel about the trajectory of the Respiratory Care Profession?

I have a very optimistic outlook on the future of our profession. The COVID-19 pandemic brought the crucial role of respiratory therapists into the spotlight, significantly raising awareness about what we do. As a result, the demand for respiratory therapists is expected to grow, creating numerous opportunities for us in the field. With the rapid advancements in healthcare technology, we truly represent the most tech-savvy bedside healthcare

profession. Additionally, as an instructor, I'm excited about the upcoming changes in the NBRC credentialing process.

Who is your favorite author?

The last two books I have read (to completion) are by Craig Groeschel. I just finished "Think Ahead". His books are motivating and practical. I can't remember the last fiction book I read.

What is your favorite hobby?

My favorite hobby is anything outdoors, especially when it means being away from cell service. Currently, I really enjoy canoeing. Since moving to south Alabama, I've found it much more relaxing—there's less concern about navigating rapids, but I do have to be mindful of alligators!



# AARC Activates Disaster Relief

The AARC Disaster Relief Fund was launched in 1992 to assist members who suffer damage to their homes or other personal property as a result of federally declared natural disasters.

AARC members living in officially declared disaster areas may apply for a grant of up to \$500, either online at <https://www.aarc.org/aarc-membership/aarc-membership-benefits/aarc-disaster-relief-fund/>, or by calling (972) 406-4682.

If you know of a fellow member who has been affected by Hurricane Helene or Hurricane Milton, please relay this message to them, as they may not have access to the internet. Currently, the disaster area

includes North Carolina, Louisiana, Georgia, and Florida.

The fund is all about AARC members helping members.



We are here  
to help.

If you would like to contribute to the AARC's Disaster Relief Fund, donate online at <https://my.aarc.org/Donate>



## President's Corner

Where has 2024 gone? As our country gets ready to elect our new leader soon, it is also time for a change in leadership in the ASRC. Our new board members were elected earlier this year, and they will soon begin their term leading our state. I am excited to see them ready to begin their term in January. As I end my term as President, I look back at the past 16 years that I have served on this board. Like many RTs in our state, the first several years of my career I had no idea of what the AARC did for me and knew very little about the ASRC. In 2008, David Howard contacted me about running for the position as East Central District Rep. Like most that have been asked to run, my first questions were, "What do I have to do? How much time are we talking about?". He made it sound simple, so I agreed. Like everyone else, I had a busy job. I was a director of a busy department, I had a family with young children, etc. I did not feel like I had a lot of extra time to give to a "volunteer" organization, especially one that I was not completely aware of what they did. Now, looking back, I realize that accepting that nomination changed my career in more ways than I realized.

I got involved. I began to meet RT decision makers from across the state and across the nation. I grew a network of colleagues that I knew that I could call on for advice when dealing with whatever we were facing at my hospital. I have had the honor of meeting so many amazing people through the past 16 years! I learned that not only were there other RTs in our state that felt like we needed to grow and advance as a profession, but I have gotten to know so many that are working to do just that - Educate, Advocate, Elevate, and Advance our profession. As I finish my term as President, I want to say Thank You! Thank you to everyone that I have had the honor to work with on this board. Thank you to everyone who has supported us at ASRC Events over the years! Thank you to those that have agreed to get involved and will begin their term of leading this board in January! Alabama RTs are Amazing! We can be better tomorrow than we are today, if we are willing to continue to push forward! Remember, "Be A Therapist!". Be proud of what we do and do not hesitate to speak up and let others know the importance of RTs!

Thank you,  
Ed

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