

# POTA DISTRICT 7

FALL 2009

PENNSYLVANIA OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION

## POTA Conference 2009 in Pittsburgh!

Learn the Tricks of the Trade, Treat Yourself to the Evidence is the title of the annual POTA conference to be held at the Sheraton Station Square Hotel on October 30 & 31.

District 7 will be well represented with presentations given by Anita Hotchkiss, John Connelly and Bernie Hattjar from Gannon University and Mary Gavacs from Mercyhurst College.

We are also proud to announce that the Master Clinician and the Award of Outstanding Achievement will be presented to members of D 7 at the POTA Business Meeting & Awards Ceremony on Friday evening. Now you have to attend to find out who they are!

To support you in your effort to attend, D 7 will provide a \$20. Citgo gas card to a member who is driving to conference. D 7 would like to encourage carpooling, if possible. Only one card per vehicle please.

To apply for this benefit, send your name, POTA member number and the OT or OTA's that you are carpooling with to:

Michelle Mioduszewski, MS,  
OTR/L

Niagara Therapy, LLC  
240 West 11th Street, Suite 106  
Erie, PA 16501  
Phone: 814-464-0627  
Fax: 814-464-0629



Be Green! Carpool with a friend to conference!

## Newsletter Sponsorship

This issue of the newsletter was sponsored by LMN Builder who provided the labor and costs for copying, collating, and postage for the mailing. If you are aware of a business or OT employer that would like to sponsor our newsletter, please contact Mary Gavacs.

**lmnbuilder.com**

### District 7 Board Members

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Corresponding Secretary: Mary Gavacs, [mgavacs@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:mgavacs@mercyhurst.edu)

## JOBS, JOBS, JOBS !!!

### THERAPY TO GO

Small company seeking OTR to provide home-based services to children ages birth-3 yrs. Make your own schedule at a competitive per-diem rate. Please call Laura @ (814) 715-5738 or send resume to THERAPY TO GO 54 Marlin St. Brookville, PA 15825

### Niagara Therapy, LLC

COTA needed: Looking for part time COTA for outpatient setting treating children and adults. Please direct questions and resume to Michelle Mioduszewski at: 240 West 11th Street, Suite 106; Erie, PA 16501.

Phone: 814-464-0627.

### Shriners Hospitals for Children

in Erie, PA is seeking an OTR to join its rehab department to provide evaluation and treatment to a varied caseload of pediatric patients with orthopedic or neuromuscular diagnoses. Contact: K Howland, 814-875-8794, Email address (to send resume directly) [khowland@shrinenet.org](mailto:khowland@shrinenet.org)

### Mercyhurst College North East

Full time faculty position, includes academic fieldwork coordinator duties. Registered & licensed OTR or COTA, minimum of bachelor's degree. Teaching experience preferred.

Contact: Mary Gavacs, 814-725-6309 or

[mga-vacs@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:mga-vacs@mercyhurst.edu)

## 5th Annual Erie Seating Symposium



Don't miss the seating symposium and adaptive equipment exhibition at the Courtyard Marriott in Erie on October 29, 2009.

There will be two education seminars, an adult track with a session at 9am, repeated at 1 pm and a pediatric track from 8 to 4:30. Both speakers are nationally known in the field of adaptive seating and are members of

RESNA.

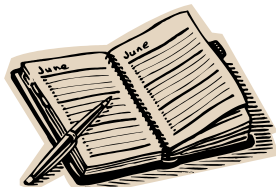
The cost is \$30 for the adult program, and \$65 for the pediatric, including lunch, exhibits and a CEU eligible certificate.

There will be over thirty exhibitors and several door prizes will be given away.

This year's symposium is sponsored by [Imnbuilder.com](http://Imnbuilder.com).

For more information and a registration form, contact Presque Isle Rehabilitation Technologies at 814-838-0099.

## Upcoming Continuing Education Opportunities



Caption describing picture or graphic.

### Integrating NDT Sensory Strategies in Pediatric Practice

October 15-16, 2009

Barber National Institute

Information: [boehmeworkshops.com](http://boehmeworkshops.com)

Choose Current Course Calendar from the menu.

### Disability & Bullying: Making A Difference for Students with Differences

Presented by Christine Linkie OTR/L of the Ophelia Project.

October 1, 2009; 7-8:30pm, free of charge, Barber National Institute, childcare available, RSVP by September 18 to 814- 456- 5437.

### Practice Makes Perfect in Presentations

Many staff OT's, including you, have a lot to offer, but hesitate because they think they need an advanced degree or already be teaching to be a good speaker. A degree or position or slick power point presentation won't make you a good speaker, practice and experience will.

So start small. Find a topic or aspect of OT that you are passionate about. A case study is a good way to start.

Practice your talk to a few of your colleagues and get feedback on improving it. Practice it until you are comfortable presenting it.

Then offer to present it at an in service at a staff meeting. Then move on to giving the presentation at a D 7 POTA meeting, With practice, you will feel more confident and you may find yourself as a presenter at the state conference!

Good speakers often can find creative ways to turn a topic that seems not too glamorous on the surface into a gem. Ask yourself what you liked about some of the best speakers you have heard. After you do a presentation, hand out an evaluation form for input on how to be more effective.

Another good way to become a presenter is to first write an article on a topic of your choice for your department or facility newsletter. It is a natural progression to turn an article into a lecture-- or a lecture into an article!

This newsletter, the Penn Point and OT Practice all welcome submissions, just check out the publication for the editor contact info or go to the POTA or AOTA websites.



You too can become a presenter for POTA!

**Occupational Therapy**  
*Living Life To Its Fullest.*

**AOTA** The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. [www.AOTA.org](http://www.AOTA.org)

**This billboard was displayed in two locations in Erie during July 2009. At W 38th and Liberty Streets & W 12th St . This was a project of D 7 to promote OT.**

**LAMAR** Bleed / Retro

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**PENNSYLVANIA OCCUPATIONAL  
THERAPY ASSOCIATION**

c/o M Gavacs  
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OTA Program  
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**1.800.URI.POTA**

