



NewsNotes

A quarterly Publication of the Virginia Rehabilitation Association
2012 Third Quarter, July-September, No. 47

Presidential Pondering by Ned Campbell

Twenty-two years does not seem like much. Many of us have children well older than that. Heck, some of us have grandchildren older than that. As relates to my own kids I keep wondering how the time has flown by so fast. Reflecting on where I was after the ADA was signed into law, it was a small consulting company that was updating an older building, a former house that was now zoned for business use. The owner was complaining loudly that she could not do the interior renovations without also completing exterior changes that would comply with new construction codes under "this stupid law."



The reality is, over the course of less than a generation, just this one aspect of the law has taken down architectural barriers of all kinds. Our children have benefitted from the fact that universal physical access to employment and services is commonplace. Many of us are old enough to appreciate right now that accessible architecture is the law. My own aging knees are very appreciative at times.

The company I mentioned earlier consulted with businesses trying to take advantage of the emerging capabilities of the Internet. Nobody considered at the time that the Internet could be an area where individuals with disabilities would face significant barriers. The first inkling was when a non-profit asked us to design a web portal to serve some individuals that were blind or vision impaired. It was "eye opening" to learn that web design failed to accommodate the "adaptive technologies" these individuals used quite ably and expertly for other computer work. Most of us had never used a screen reader or other computer AT.

The ADA subsequently required us to recognize and correct these limitations and barriers. Virginia was actually out in front of what became known as the emerging "508" standards. The Virginia Assistive Technology Service (VATS) sponsored statewide conferences and resources on standards for Internet design. Aneesh Chopra, who was the head of technology for Virginia (and later the first White House Chief Technology Officer), was an enthusiastic advocate and helped maneuver the state standards through the legislature several years before the national standards were mandated. I had an opportunity recently to reminisce with Aneesh about how extraordinary that process was, how we now take these standards as a matter of fact, and the work we yet have before us.

Coming back to an important theme. We can take in stride the important accomplishments since 1990, but we know that we cannot take for granted the next two decades, or even the short term. Maybe even for the next year as we face potential disastrous service cuts if some parties that are willing to take us over the proverbial budget cliff have their way.

Many current and retired members of the VRA assembled with President George H.W. Bush to witness the signature of this landmark legislation. It is now up to our younger professional members to take up the banner, step it up, and advocate diligently as a professional organization, so that you and future generations will know the ADA will be there when they need it.



--Submitted by Ned Campbell



VRA News

2012 Collaborations Conference Update

Register Now!
Collaborations Conference 2012
September 30 – October 2, 2012
Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront

Register online at vaaccs.org.

Early Bird registration ends August 31st.
General registration ends September 21st.

The 2012 General Session Speaker will be Dr. Amy Armstrong of Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Armstrong is sponsored by VARL.

The Annual General Meeting of the VRA will be held as a luncheon meeting during the Collaborations Conference on Monday, October 1st. Further details will be available closer to the conference date.

Co-hosted by

VRA - Virginia Rehabilitation Association
VA-APSE - The Virginia Association for Persons In Supported Employment
vaACCSES - The Virginia Association of Community Rehabilitation Programs

VRA Elections

The VRA is currently recruiting for new Officers and Board Members:

- President-Elect
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Board Members at large.

The President-Elect and Secretary serve a one year term. The Treasurer serves a two year term. The Board Members at large serve a three year term. If you have an interest in running for any of these positions please submit your nomination as well as a short bio by August 24th to Jennifer McDonough at jltodd@vcu.edu or 804-828-6984.

--Submitted by Jennifer McDonough



Updating Your Membership Information is Easy!

Does your NRA Membership Contact information need to be changed?

Log in to the Members Only page of the NRA website found at <http://www.nationalrehab.org> to make name, address, phone, fax, email address changes on your own.

To log in, the default ID is your membership number and the passcode is the last four digits of your telephone number. Of course, Mary Kaye Johnston will be happy to help you with this process and she can be reached at info@vra.org.

--Submitted by Mary Kaye Johnston

Golf Tournament Update

The 13th Annual VRA Benjy Burnett Golf Tournament will be held on Tuesday, September 11, 2012. Please get your team and sign up early. The tournament will be at Hunting Hawk Golf Club in Glen Allen and it will be a GREAT DAY. Come out and support VRA and have a good time. The registration form can be found at the following link: <http://www.vra.org/www/ngw/server/pdf/golf%20flyer%202012.pdf>.

--Submitted by Howard Greed

VRA Division and Committee News

Legislative Liaison & Committee Report

Disability advocates lost a champion July 3rd with the passing of state Senator Yvonne Miller of Norfolk. VRA president, Ned Campbell, asked me to write a few words about Senator Miller, and I am honored to do so. I hope that you will also share your memories of our distinguished friend, and we'll post them for all to read.

Senator Miller's obituary summarized the important milestones in her life. She was born in Edenton, NC, on July 4, 1934, the eldest of 13 children. She earned a bachelor's degree from the Norfolk division of Virginia State College (now Norfolk State University), a master's degree from Columbia University, and a doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh.

After teaching for 12 years in Norfolk's segregated schools, Dr. Miller spent 31 years at Norfolk State as a professor of education. While at NSU, she was a passionate advocate for early childhood education, for her students, and for the children taught by her students.

Dr. Miller was the first African-American woman elected to the House of Delegates and later to the state Senate, where she also became the African-American woman to chair a standing committee, the Committee on

Rehabilitation and Social Services. She also chaired the Transportation Committee prior to the 2011 general election when the Democrats lost control of the Senate. Dr. Miller was a long-standing member of the Commission on Youth and the Disability Commission. She was elected chair of the latter this year, and she died prior to convening a meeting of the Disability Commission.

I first met Yvonne as a new faculty member at Norfolk State in 1974. I was white, young, and from the North, raised far from the likes of Yvonne Miller. She never faltered in her support for me. Our offices were located in the same building for the 19 years of my tenure at NSU, so we had many opportunities to chat about teaching, students, the foibles of higher education, and then politics and policy.

Yvonne was an excellent teacher who never faltered in her support for increasing the political awareness of all and encouraging all to speak for themselves. She was probably the first elected official I met and knew. And I know that much of what I've been doing for the past 10 years I can attribute in part to Yvonne's encouragement as a role model for advocacy.



I'll miss Yvonne; we'll miss her advocacy for children and people with disabilities. To all she was absolutely "gorgeous," an adjective she shared freely and

assuredly with everyone. Share your thoughts with me at becky@B2Lconsulting.com, and we'll post them in our next NewsNotes.

--Submitted by Becky Bowers-Lanier

VRA Foundation News

The VRA Foundation will sponsor live entertainment again at the 2012 Collaboration Conference during the opening reception. Bill Burnside and Roxie Wilkerson will be playing and we hope you will come and support them and the VRA with a donation. The Foundation hopes to raise a minimum of \$500.00 at the Conference. Please come and help. The Foundation Board will meet in August to make awards for 2012 – 2013 School year and the results will be in the next newsletter and announced at the Collaborations Conference.

--Submitted by Howard Green

VRA Education Committee Update

The VRA Workshop on Emotional Intelligence with Susan Green, and held in April 2012, was such a success that there is interest in offering the workshop again in the Eastern Region. VARL has also approached Susan Green about offering this workshop and we are negotiating a shared sponsorship between VRA and VARL to support this request.

A half-day workshop, entitled Research to Practice: What You Should Know About Supporting Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Employment, is planned for August 10, 2012 and presented by VCU-RRTC staff, ESO Community Partners, and a DRS Counselor. The workshop will provide a description of how two research projects helped youth and adults with ASD gain competitive employment. It will include case studies and a thorough description of the additional supports provided to increase successful employment, to include intensive instruction in social communication and job skills, visual supports, and work routine and structure.

A final VRA sponsored workshop will be offered in the fall 2012, and will be focused on Ethics/Social Networking, as this has been a consistent and frequently requested training topic.

--Submitted by Rob Froehlich

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Membership Committee Update

Membership Statistics

Total VRA members as of February 2012: 166. This is down two (2) members from October 2011 (and from July, 2010, incidentally). There are currently 17 Lifetime Members, 7 Student Members, 3 Organizational Members (all from PRS), 2 Affiliate Members and 137 Professional Members.

Welcome New Members!

- Holly Dalton (DARS, NOVA)
- Chuck McElroy (WorkSource Enterprises, Charlottesville)
- Erica Strayhorn (DARS, Fredericksburg)
- Michelle Montecalvo (DARS, Manassas)

DARS Friending Program

The membership committee would like to have a discussion about the program; both as a critique and to solicit ideas for how to retain a higher percentage of members for whom first year's dues are paid.

Member Committee Activities

The committee has been active with sending out certificates and new member welcome letters to new members in Virginia as well as following up with those who have lapsed. Mary Kaye Johnston, Member Co-Chair, has been very active with volunteering at NRA to help them get membership information out to states on a monthly basis.

--Submitted by Andrew Stowe

Virginia Association of Rehabilitation Leadership (VARL)



It has been a hot and dry summer so far, I am hopeful that things will improve as we move deeper into the summer season.

This year started very well for VARL. The VARL Board is grateful to those who attended our two trainings so far this year. On March 21, 2012, Shirley Lyons did a training entitled

“Your Leadership Legacy - What will they say about you?” This was presented in Charlottesville at the WIA Center; CRC credits were offered for the training.

The June 19 training with Terrie Glass titled “Keys to Effective Collaboration” was a big success for VARL. 40 people attended the workshop, and according to the feedback form received at the end of the training, it was very well received. CRC credits were also offered for this training.

The VARL Board is excited to be involved in an unprecedented collaboration between VRCEA/VARL/VRCA. The Board agreed to co-sponsor the training at the Roanoke Workforce Center entitled “Building Relationships and Trust.” This training is based on Steven R. Covey's book “The Speed of Trust.” This is a fitting tribute to this wonderful thought leader as we grieve his passing early this year. The focus of that training will be to identify practical things you can do to increase your ability to build and maintain relationships. This training is scheduled for September 18, 2012. I am looking forward to attend. Please spread the word!

I am anticipating another exciting Collaborations Conference. The Board agreed to sponsor Elizabeth Scott to present on Succession Planning. We consider this presentation as the starting point of a new initiative to encourage organizations in



the rehabilitation field to take a big picture view of their agency and the development of their leaders. Also, Amy Armstrong has agreed to be our sponsored speaker at the Collaborations. Since then, she has been identified as the Keynote Speaker for the year, but she will still be identified as a VARL Sponsored Speaker.

VARL is currently accepting nominations for the VARL Emerging Leader Award. More information as well as a nomination form can be found on page 11.

Mark your calendar for the next VARL Board Meetings: August 13th in Charlottesville at the Workforce Center; there will be a Leadership chat following that meeting. December 11th will be our final board meeting for 2012, and it will take place in Richmond.

The VARL board is planning to move leadership development to a higher level in our field. As a result, we will have a high demand for talented and creative volunteers. Please consider getting involved in our education and membership Committee during this exciting time. Mahatma Gandhi says it best: *"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."*

--Submitted by Ralph Figaro

VRCEA President's Update

VRCEA sponsored a training held at the DARS Central Office in Richmond on July 19th entitled "Increasing your Ability and Capacity for Demand Side Business and Job Development" presented by Howard Green.

VRCEA is happy to announce that we are co-sponsoring training with the Virginia Rehabilitation Counselors Association (VRCA) and with Virginia Association of Rehabilitation Leaders (VARL) to be held on September 18th from 1-4:30 PM at the Roanoke Workforce Center. Shirley Lyons will be the presenter. For more information email dale.batten@dars.virginia.gov.

Calls for Nominations

VRCEA is seeking nominations for the fall election of Officers and Board Member positions. Elected Officers will assume responsibility effective January 1, 2013. All VRCEA members are encouraged to make nominations, including self nominations. Open positions include President Elect, Secretary (1 year term), Treasurer (2 year term), and two Board Members (3 year term).

Nominations should be submitted to Emily West, VRCEA Immediate Past President at Emily.West@dars.virginia.gov or 804-863-1621 Richmond, VA by August 20th, 2012. For more information regarding the specific duties and responsibilities of each position, please contact Emily.

VRCEA is also currently accepting nominations for the VRCEA Spirit Award. Additional information as well as the nomination form can be found on page 10.

The **VRCEA Annual Business meeting** will be held on Sunday, September 30th at noon during the Collaborations Conference in Virginia Beach. All VRCEA members are encouraged to attend, as well as other interested individuals.

The next **VRCEA Board meeting** will be held on Thursday September 6th at the DARS Williamsburg Office at 10AM. Board meetings are open to all members and individuals considering membership.

--Submitted by Sandra Mottesheard



NRA News

Letter from NRA President

Greetings Virginia!

Let me start by expressing my gratitude to your association. I am so grateful for your membership and support of the National Rehabilitation Association. I have so much respect for the work you do and I feel blessed to know so many of you through my involvement with NRA. Thank You!

As you know, Beverlee Stafford, Executive Director of the National Rehabilitation Association has given her resignation effective September 19th. We appreciate the service Beverlee has given to our association for the past three and a half years. Patricia Leahy has agreed to serve as Acting Interim Executive Director. I am confident this will make for a smooth transition and feel fortunate that Patricia is willing to serve in this capacity.

The NRA board and staff are working hard to meet your membership needs. We have recruited four volunteers to help with membership processing. Thank you Virginia for Mary Kaye Johnston and Bonnie Hawley! In addition to training volunteers we are hiring two full time temporary staff to work at the NRA office and assist with membership processing. We are committed to improving processing as the information and services are core to the mission of the NRA.

The NRA board has heard many concerns and suggestions around priorities for the association to act on. The board is exploring which direction to focus on and we would love to hear directly from membership on your opinion of the following priorities:

1. Pay partial chapter rebates
2. Invest in the NRA office
3. Purchase an audit
4. Hire membership processing staff for longer than two months

Your feedback does matter.

Finally, I am looking forward the NRA Annual Training Conference in Chicago. NRA will Breeze Through the Windy City August 23-26. You can find all the

information on the conference sessions, registration and hotel information at our Google site <https://sites.google.com/site/nra2012conference/>. I hope to see many of you there.

Additionally, On May 14th Ellen Sokolowski and Sheila Browning hosted a membership teleseminar. There was robust and honest dialog and we value your ideas and feedback. Save the date now, we have scheduled another membership teleseminar for Monday August 13th from 11:00 – 1:00 Central Standard Time.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to speak to many of the NRA members across the country. I have enjoyed talking with your boards and membership and appreciate the involvement and passion for our premier association. I am happy to call into a board meeting or speak with you utilizing technologies like Skype.

In case you haven't heard, the 2013 Governmental Affairs conference will be moving from Old Town Alexandria to Washington D.C. and our 2013 Annual Training Conference site has been establish in Brooklyn, NY. We have a lot of members interested in running for the 2013 board of directors and I believe NRA is moving in the right direction.

As you know, NRA uses technology to communicate with you from the Washington Wires to the Contemporary Rehab to all member email updates. If you are not seeing emails from NRA, please contact me at sara.sundeen@couragecenter.org. I welcome the opportunity to get to know you and I will make sure we get your correct information on the mailing lists.

I hope to continue the conversations in building a stronger NRA. Please feel free to contact me or our board with questions, concerns or ideas. Thank you all for your membership and involvement. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter!

Thank you again for your membership and involvement.

--Sara Sundeen, 2012 NRA President



Other News & Notes

The Virginia SILC – What Can We Do For You?

The Virginia Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) is an autonomous planning body working with the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), the Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI) and the fifteen Centers for Independent Living (CILs), with the mission to promote effective policies, programs and activities that maximize independence for Virginians with disabilities. The SILC receives its authority from Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended in 1992. The SILC is composed of eighteen gubernatorial appointees who represent people with significant disabilities from across the state, as well as the interests of other independent living programs and services.

Through the SILC's mission, it plays an active role in:

- supporting and expanding the state network of CILs,
- creating a culture for full integration and independence,
- advocating systems change for full access and equality in community life,
- educating policymakers and stakeholders about the importance of independent living,
- developing a strategy for collaboration among stakeholders in the disability community,
- leading to full inclusion and independence in the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth receives federal pass-through dollars (e.g., "Part B funds") due to the SILC's development and submission of the triennial *State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)*. The SPIL outlines independent living (IL) priorities and identifies IL needs of the Commonwealth's citizens. The plan is developed by the SILC and signed conjointly with DARS and DVBI and addresses how federal, state and other funds will be utilized to sustain and expand the statewide independent living network of programs.

Through a strong partnership with the fifteen CILs scattered throughout the Commonwealth, the SILC works to implement its main goal of ensuring Virginians with disabilities are able to live independently with the

necessary resources available. This partnership also allows the SILC to develop new strategies to create more accessible and affordable housing units, promote the use of universal design methods, and educate communities about the housing rights of persons with disabilities.

The SILC – CIL partnership has resulted in some great success stories for the Commonwealth. For instance, in federal fiscal year 2011, the CILs reported these outcomes related to housing:

- Over 700 people with disabilities were provided training on housing planning processes
- Over 100 community entities were provided training on housing planning processes
- Approximately 300 community entities were trained on *Money Follows the Person*
- Over 100 people who work with the public housing agency plans and consolidated plans were trained on the housing needs of people with disabilities
- Approximately 100 people with disabilities provided public comments on public housing agency plans and consolidated plans
- 50 Section-8 vouchers were requested due to the work of the CIL staff

Overall, the work of your SILC has resulted in many successes, but that work has only begun. There is so much more that needs to be accomplished in the world of independent living.

Only by developing and expanding partnerships with a multitude of parties will we be able to bring the opportunities offered by a fully independent living community to those with disabilities across the Commonwealth.

For more information on the SILC, visit our website at www.vasilc.org or contact our SILC Administrator at (804) 325-1360 or (866) 460-9306.



Possible Changes to CARE Transportation in Future

GRTC Transit System's CARE service provides curb-to-curb paratransit services to individuals with disabilities in the Richmond Metro area. This service is available to those individuals who may not be reasonably able to use GRTC fixed route bus service. This service is available in the City of Richmond and portions of Henrico and Chesterfield Counties.

According to reports from the July 17th GRTC Board Meeting, the board voted to initiate an investigation of these services and the possible reduction of services. According to GRTC, there are a number of steps to be taken in developing a plan and there will be work done with the City and the County before GRTC can finalize public involvement efforts on the initiative. Once GRTC has everything in place, they will provide the information to the public.

If you live in the Richmond Metro area, please keep your eyes open for possible public meetings on this topic and plan to attend.

--Submitted by Jennifer McDonough

VABD Consumer Satisfaction Survey



Virginia Board for People with Disabilities

Do you want your voice to be heard? Take the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities' annual consumer satisfaction and stakeholder feedback survey. Available online (or by print or fax if requested), the survey is open from late August until the end of September.

If you are a person with a disability, a family member, a service provider, a policymaker, an advocate, or a concerned citizen, you are encouraged to complete the survey. Stakeholder feedback and public comment is essential to improving the advocacy, outreach, training, and other activities of the Board.

Individual responses are anonymous and confidential. Tabulated results will be reported to federal and state funding authorities. Your comments will ensure the quality and support of the Board's mission on behalf of Virginians with developmental and other disabilities.

Check the Board's website at www.vaBoard.org or visit VbpdFeedback.com to complete the survey. If you need a printed copy or other accessible formats, contact the Board at 1-800-846-4464 (voice & TTY) fax at 804-786-1118, or email at info@Vpbd.virginia.gov.

--Submitted by Barb Dodd



VRCEA Spirit Award Nomination Form

VRCEA is seeking nominations for the VRCEA Spirit Award. This will be the third year that VRCEA has given this award in recognition of a rehabilitation practitioner. The award will be presented at the 2012 Collaborations Conference. Please see below for a listing of criteria:

The person nominated should embody the following characteristics;

- Work to advance the profession of rehabilitation counseling and rehabilitation education,
- Promote ethical practice,
- Enhance public understanding of the role of rehabilitation counseling in assisting persons with disabilities to become self sufficient, self supporting and contributing members of society,
- Work to develop innovative programs and services for all persons with disabilities,
- Be a professional rehabilitation counselor or rehabilitation educator for a period of 2 years or more.

Nominations must be made by a VRCEA member, but the person nominated does not need to be a VRCEA member. This is a great way to recognize your colleagues. Nominations must be submitted to sandra.mottesheard@dars.virginia.gov by **September 1st**.

Name of person nominated: _____

Name of nominator: _____

Justification for the nomination:

Please attach any letters of support if available.



VARL EMERGING LEADER AWARD

Eligibility

1. Individual must be involved in the field of vocational rehabilitation (employee, teacher, intern, volunteer, etc.).
2. No restrictions regarding age, years of experience in field or current role in the field.
3. Nominator must be a VARL member but nominee need not be a VARL or VRA member.

Criteria for Emerging Leader Award

The VARL Emerging Leader award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated leadership potential within the field of Vocational Rehabilitation. This emerging leader will have demonstrated a commitment to the advancement and development of exemplary leadership qualities through innovative thinking, leadership of others, effective participation in leadership activities, and study leading to a positive impact on the vocational rehabilitation community.

Nomination Process

1. You may email, fax or mail nominations to Doug James. Nominations are due by August 24, 2012.
2. Please include with your nomination your contact information – name, email address and phone number.
3. Include in your nomination a statement as to why you believe your nominee is deserving of VARL's "Emerging Leader" Award.
4. Please include any documents, letters, etc. in support of your nomination.

Nominations should be sent to Doug James no later than August 24, 2012

Email: drj922@gmail.com

Mailing address: 7584 Blanford Court, Alexandria, VA 22315

Questions? Email Doug James or call at (571) 215-7595



Virginians Benefit from Department for DARS

Beginning July 1, the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services will focus on improving the response to seniors and Virginians with disabilities who need some aid in maintaining their options for independence, safety and employment.

The agency was created by legislation signed this spring by Gov. McDonnell to take the programmatic units of the current Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) and the Virginia Department for the Aging (VDA) and create a new entity with a wider menu of service options. In 2013, the adult services units from Virginia's Department of Social Services will become part of the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, or DARS.

DARS will provide and advocate for the highest quality of services to help older Virginians and those with disabilities maximize and secure their employment, independence and full inclusion into society and guide the Commonwealth in preparing for an aging population.

The agency will be at the center of the Commonwealth's response to two critical emerging issues, according to DARS Commissioner Jim Rothrock, who served as DRS Commissioner and VDA Interim Commissioner.

"Many Virginians who are often referred to as 'boomers' or 'seniors' are in, or are approaching, their retirement years. They rightly expect to be secure in their efforts to age in place and to have safe options for their long-term care needs. DARS will be there for them," Rothrock said. "Virginia is also committed to having *livable communities* for those Virginians with disabilities who are transitioning from institutions to community settings or those who wish to live and work with long-term supports and services."

About 12 percent, or nearly 1 million, of Virginians are age 65 and older, with the number of older Virginians expected to double to 1.8 million by 2030, and about 20 percent of the population is estimated to have a disability at some point in their lifetime.

Secretary of Health and Human Resources Dr. Bill Hazel said that under Gov. McDonnell's leadership, the new agency was created to work with community partners to be more effective in strategic planning, budgeting, program monitoring and evaluation, training and technical support. "DARS will work with older Virginians and those with disabilities and their families to realize our vision of increased options for adults and a true 'Commonwealth of Opportunity' for all," he said.

The DARS website, www.vadars.org, features information on aging, employment services, community-based services, assistive technology/devices and equipment and disability determination. Consumers who visit the current DRS or VDA website automatically will be redirected to the new site. The agency's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/vadars, offers information, photos and videos on related topics.

Consumers who receive services through one of the state's 25 Area Agencies on Aging or other "disability oriented" partners that are locally governed will continue to do so. Consumers will also be able to obtain vocational rehabilitation programming through DARS' offices across the Commonwealth. Phone numbers for services offered by former DRS or VDA programs remain unchanged.

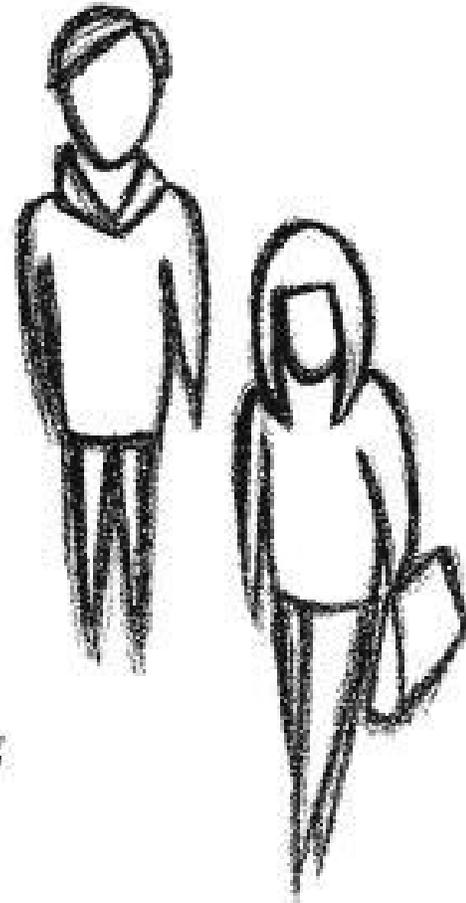
For more information about the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services and its services, visit www.vadars.org.

--Submitted by A.J. Hostetler



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LinkedIn: Join with other members of VRA and VARL!

Do you have a story to share? Go to the VRA member LinkedIn discussion board. This is a secure, professional networking site devoted to issues and interests of our members. VARL also has a site for leadership topics.

VRA LinkedIn Network: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=2114298>

VARL LinkedIn Network: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=2613703>

Join the VRA Facebook Group

Network with other members of VRA by joining the VRA Facebook group! Members can discuss VRA issues and upcoming events on this social networking website:

<https://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/groups/258928867454860>

Please visit VRA.org

Please be sure to visit the VRA website at www.vra.org for important information about NRA and VRA news, updates on trainings and events, access to NewsNotes online, and photos of past VRA events!





VRA Events Calendar

Mark your calendars for these important dates for your state and national associations

- Aug 13th** **VARL Board Meeting, Charlottesville Workforce Center**
- Aug 24th VRA Fall Election Nomination Form due to Jennifer McDonough
VRCEA Fall Election Nomination Form due to Emily West
- Aug 24th-26th NRA Annual Training Conference, Chicago, IL
- Sept 6th** **VRCEA Board Meeting, Williamsburg DARS Office, 10AM**
- Sept 11th VRA 2012 Benjy Burnett Golf Tournament
- Sept 18th** **VRCEA & VARL Sponsored Training "Building Relationships and Trust," Roanoke Workforce Center, 1-4:30PM**
- Sept 21st VRA Board Meeting, DRS Central Office
- Sept 30th-
Oct 2nd** **2012 Collaborations Conference, Virginia Beach**
- Sept 30th VRCEA Annual Meeting at Collaborations Conference, 12PM
- Oct 1st** **Annual VRA Business Meeting and Luncheon**
- Oct 19th NewsNotes article submission deadline
- Nov 1st** **VARL Training on "Situational Leadership" with Sharon Harmon to be held in Roanoke**
- Dec 6th VRCEA Board Meeting
- Dec 7th** **VRA Board Meeting, location TBD**
- Dec 11th VARL Board Meeting, Richmond

Events and training programs also available on the VRA and NRA web sites.



Virginia Rehabilitation Association
P.O. Box 71864
Henrico, VA 23255
<http://www.vra.org>



VRA President	Ned Campbell
President-Elect	Rob Froehlich
Past President	Jennifer McDonough
Treasurer	Eleanor Williams
Secretary	Adair Jensen-Smith
Board Members	Andrew Stowe
	Kim Shepard
	Kelly Hickok
	Naomi Aitken
	Sandra Mottesheard
	Debbie Veale
	David Gitlin
	Jean Steveson
	Antoinette Smith
VRCEA President	Sandra Mottesheard
VARL President	Ralph Figaro
NewsNotes Editor	Kristina Blough

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 \$ 50 / issue : \$ 175 / year

Next Deadline for NewsNotes: Oct 19th.

Please Submit NewsNotes articles to
Kristina Blough by Email at:
newsnotes@vra.org

Or send by US Mail to:
VRA NewsNotes c/o Mary Kaye Johnston
4612 Kingsrow Drive
Glen Allen, VA 23060
804-965-0514