

# Iowa Rehabilitation Association Newsletter 2nd Quarter 2009

Suzanne Paulson, Editor

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT  
Harlietta Helland

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

One new, exciting opportunity for IRA is to host the regional conference in conjunction with our fall training conference. States in the region include Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, and Iowa. The board agreed to issue an invitation for the region to join us and we received a positive response! Watch our web site for updates!

From news about legislative achievements to plans for Brag & Steal and the fall training conference, the board had a lot to consider at their second quarter meeting on May 1. Articles elsewhere in this newsletter will share that information.

The board decided to include division events and news on our web site. That means you can find Brag & Steal information soon. Keep checking back at [www.ira-iowa.org](http://www.ira-iowa.org). The web site will soon have information on exhibits for the fall training conference. Tim Gracey is coordinating exhibit space so, if you know of a vendor in your area that might want to highlight their program or service to our members, please give them a copy of the form.

A new addition to the fall training conference has been made. Frank Potter and other board members believe that collaborations among organizations would be beneficial for our customers. Frank is lining up a few organizations to present their mission and an overview of their activities during a breakout session at the fall training conference. Watch for more information on that opportunity.

Additionally, I have learned that the small business that printed and mailed our newsletter (and has for the past ten/ fifteen or more years) will no longer be providing that service. Janet Roby, a success story for IVRS, has decided to retire! That has created an opportunity for the board to explore the possibility of making the newsletter available on our web site and simply sending an email to members to let them know the new issue is available. Of course a print copy will be made available to those requesting that format. The fourth quarter newsletter will be our "trial run" and we want to hear from members about this decision.

The contract has been finalized at the Clarion in Cedar Rapids for the fall conference so you can go ahead and make your reservations. The web site is <http://www.clarioncr.com>. The board will meet at the Clarion on July 31 at 10:00 a.m. and, as always, all

members are welcome to attend. If you would like to be on the agenda, please contact me by July 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Brag and Steal

Registration information is in this newsletter for the 2009 Brag and Steal.

### Proposed Bylaw Change Roger Carter Constitution and Bylaws Chairperson

At the May 1 Board Meeting, the Board voted to **eliminate** Line 1 of Article IV Boundaries which reads:

**The boundaries of IRA shall be the same as those of the State.**

Their thought was that this Bylaw seemed to restrict IRA membership to only those people who reside and/or work in Iowa and that people in neighboring states, i.e. Nebraska (that no longer have a State chapter) would be excluded from joining IRA.

To change a Bylaw (no matter how minor) requires the vote of the IRA membership at the Annual Meeting, scheduled this year for October in Cedar Rapids. In addition, any State Bylaw change requires the approval of our parent NRA.

The change obviously has merit, particularly in light of the fact that we had such a great turnout of Nebraska people at last year's conference. As members of IRA, they could take advantage of training opportunities not afforded to them in their home state, even if meant incurring added travel expense. Keep in mind that most of us do that anyway.

On the other hand, the change/deletion may not be necessary. The next Article, Article V Membership, reads as follows:

**The membership of IRA shall consist of all members and only those members of NRA who live in the state, or who designate Iowa as their affiliate of choice on their membership application.**

This Article suggests then that these same individuals could still join NRA/IRA regardless of

residency and still be entitled to the same privileges as those of us who live in Iowa.

Again, it may be a minor change but one that can eliminate any confusion about who can join IRA. This Bylaw change will be on the ballot at the Annual Meeting in October.

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## **IRA GOING GREEN – AND GREENER**

With this issue of the newsletter, the **awards nomination forms** will be available on line at our **web site only** instead of mailing them which saves postage and paper. The fourth quarter newsletter will be published **electronically only**....unless we hear you need/want yours in a print format. Please confirm your email address where you want to receive your news by sending an email to [victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us](mailto:victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us). Victoria is our membership chair and keeper of vital member information. If you need/want to receive your newsletter in a print format instead, please send a note to that effect to me: Harlietta Helland, 809 West Main Street, Marshalltown, IA 50158. Do it today so the board will have additional information by their next meeting to discuss this further. Thanks!

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## **SEEKING EXHIBITORS AND ADVERTISERS FOR THE CONFERENCE**

Tim Gracey

I am pleased to spearhead the effort to get exhibitors to share their product and services with the membership attending the conference this fall in Cedar Rapids. The rate is the same as last year (\$175/table). I will be sending out letters and registration information shortly, and hope to have them posted on the IRA website. Feel free to send me names of businesses you think might be a good match for our membership, or copy the letter and registration from the website, and contact them yourself (just let me know if you do and who you contacted). If you have questions I can be reached at [t.gracey@mchsi.com](mailto:t.gracey@mchsi.com) or 515-971-1297.

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## **Membership Report**

Hello!

You know, we are still waiting to receive the roster from NRA so our IRA member records remain inaccurate. I hope this situation will be resolved soon.

At this time, I believe we have:

**IRA Total 91 - 67 Professional**

**3 Student**

**21 Full Life**

I still need assistance of every IRA member. Please let me know when you renew your membership so I can keep our records up to date here in Iowa. If you have address, phone or email changes, please let me know.

We are preparing to change the delivery of our IRA newsletters so confirming your email address with me is really important so we can provide you with a notification when the IRA newsletter is available on the website.

If you want to continue to receive your IRA newsletter in a print format, confirm your demographics with Harlietta Helland.

Please contact me at [victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us](mailto:victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us) or 319-230-8737 when you have suggestions or comments.

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## **Iowa Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators Association**

The IRCEA continues to prepare new Constitution and Bylaws. Lisa Chellew has been keeping up with the revisions. We hope to finalize this process soon and submit our data to NRA RCEA to become an official affiliate.

After we achieve that standing, we will be able to apply for funding to provide training opportunities.

Again this year, we are accepting nominations for the Counselor of the Year Award to be presented at the Annual IRA Training Conference. The nomination form is available on the IRA website. Email your nomination by September 1, 2009 to Marcia Gracey at [m.gracey@mchsi.com](mailto:m.gracey@mchsi.com) or me at [victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us](mailto:victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us).

Currently, the 2009 IRCEA Board is President – Victoria Kollmann; Vice President-Lisa Chellew; Treasurer – Jackie Wipperman; Secretary – Suzie Paulson; Board Member/Bylaws – Roger Carter; Board Member – Ray Olejniczak.

Submitted by Victoria Kollmann

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## **CHUCK WOOD AWARD IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD NOMINEES**

It's time to start thinking of nominees for IRA awards. One of these, of course, is the Chuck Wood Award, which approximately annually honors a person with a disability who has attained a high level of independence, self-reliance, and self-sufficiency in his/her community. If you know anyone who is a candidate for this, please gather the nominating materials and send them to Jonathan Ice, Iowa Department for the Blind, 411 3rd St SE, Suite 700, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401-1837. If you have questions, call 319-365-9111.

## **BENEFITS FOR VETERANS WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES**

*"To Care For Him Who Shall Have Borne the Battle..."* is the quote by Abraham Lincoln that is the foundation for Federal legislation that cares for and provides benefits to Veterans and their families. Counselors provide very similar services to State programs, in that they are employment focused and outcome based in the community. The website that provides extensive information about this benefit can be located at [www.vetsuccess.gov](http://www.vetsuccess.gov).

### **What is the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program?**

The Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Program is authorized by Congress under Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 31. It is sometimes referred to as the Chapter 31 program. The mission of VR&E is to help veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs. For veterans with service-connected disabilities so severe that they cannot immediately consider work, VR&E offers services to improve their ability to live as independently as possible.

#### **Services that may be provided by VR&E include:**

- comprehensive rehabilitation evaluation to determine abilities, skills, interests, and needs
- vocational counseling and rehabilitation planning
- employment services such as job-seeking skills, resume development, and other work readiness assistance

- assistance finding and keeping a job, including the use of special employer incentives
- if needed, training such as On the Job Training (OJT), apprenticeships, and non-paid work experiences
- if needed, post-secondary training at a college, vocational, technical or business school
- supportive rehabilitation services including case management, counseling, and referral
- independent living services.

All Counselors have faced a time when working with a client/consumer/Veteran, that employment can no longer be an option due to the severity and sometimes multiple conditions they face. This takes a tremendous toll on the entire family. As Counselors, we are entrusted to provide resources to them when this transition is faced. When employment and/or training is not feasible, there is Federal legislation that can assist the Veteran's families with tuition in particular.

**Survivor's & Dependent's Educational Assistance (Chapter 35) is an education benefit for eligible spouses and children of certain Veterans. Eligible persons can receive up to 45 months of full-time or equivalent benefits.**

To be eligible for Survivor's & Dependents' Education Assistance you must be the son, daughter, or spouse of:

- A Veteran who died, or is permanently and totally disabled, as the result of a service-connected disability. The disability must arise out of active service in the Armed Forces.
- A Veteran who died from any cause while such service-connected disability was in existence.
- A service member missing in action or captured in the line of duty by hostile force.
- A service member forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power.

- A service member hospitalized or receiving outpatient care for a VA determined service-connected permanent and total disability may be eligible for DEA benefits (effective December 23, 2006).

Spouses and surviving spouses have ten years from the date that VA establishes eligibility to use the benefit. Children may use the benefit while they are between the ages of 18 and 26.

#### STATE LEGISLATION PENDING

This session a proposed Senate Study Bill (1038) was created to similarly provide undergraduate educational assistance for dependent children of Veterans with service-connected disabilities. The grant fund is created in the state treasury as a separate fund under the control of the commission for Veteran Affairs.

The proposed bill would support Iowa resident dependents between the ages of 16 and 22 for a total of eight semesters at a defined eligible institution of higher learning. The criteria for entitlement is based upon verification of Veteran status and exhaustion of the aforementioned benefits. Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress each term and reapply annually.

For more information and updates, contact the sponsoring committee members: Daryl Beall (D, District 25) chair Steve Warnstadt (D, District 1), Vice Chair James A. Seymour (R, District 28), Ranking Member

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#### ***Legislative Report...***

Congress finally approved the \$410 billion Omnibus Spending Bill (HR 1105) which will fund most domestic discretionary government programs through September 30<sup>th</sup>. The bill has since been signed by President Obama. The Omnibus Spending Bill includes

the nine FY 2009 appropriation bills that Congress failed to pass at the end of 2008, due to a veto threat from then President George Bush. The bill provides \$19 billion more than President Bush requested for FY 2009 including a \$4.45 billion increase for the US Department of Education.

Representative John Conyers (D-MI) introduced the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act 2009( HR 1913). This legislation would provide assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies and amend federal law to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of violent, bias motivated crimes including disability. During the last Congress, this legislation passed the House with bipartisan support by a vote of 237-180, and bipartisan majorities have also voted in favor of hate crimes legislation for the last three consecutive Congresses. President Obama has voiced strong support for this legislation.

President Obama released the detail of his Administration's FY 2010 budget request on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Of the \$3.56 trillion to be spent, \$1.2 trillion is reserved for non emergency domestic spending. This amount is about \$10 billion more than the FY 2010 Budget Resolution adopted by the Congress. Administration officials noted that the additional changes to the budget request could be made later this year depending on the state of the economy, deficit projection, and possible recessions( cuts to programs made by the Administration if not rejected by the Congress.) Under the proposed budget, the COLA of Title I of the Rehabilitation Act was increased. The 2009 COLA, which includes both Title I and the American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation program amount to \$2,974,635,000.

Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) has switched to the Democratic Party from the Republican Party/In addition to increasing the Democratic Senate majority to 59, Senator Specter's switch to the Democratic Party put in motion changes to Republican representation on key committees. Senator Specter retained all of his assignments on committee, but gave up his seniority rights until the next Congress. He

vacated his Ranking Republican position on the Judiciary

Committee which was assumed by Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL). Senator Sessions is much more conservative than Senator Specter. As the Supreme Court vacancy is expected to dominate the Judiciary Committee agenda in the coming months, this change is likely to significantly alter the Republican approach to the nomination. Senator Specter was also the Ranking Member on the Appropriation Subcommittee for the Departments of Labor, Health, Human Services and Education. Subcommittee Chairperson Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Specter had a history of working together in a bipartisan manner on human services spending. Specter will now be replaced by Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH). Again, Gregg is seen as more conservative than Specter, which may change the Subcommittee dynamic on FY 2010 spending.

Health care reform is beginning to be discussed. President Obama has met with representatives of hospitals, physicians, insurers, drug companies and others who will play key roles in the upcoming health care reform debate. The groups have indicated that they will voluntarily lower their costs in the future in order to provide more impetus for reforming health care.

### ***In Iowa...***

Iowa's legislative session came to an end on Sunday, April 26, at 5:55 AM. The day after headlines focused on legislator passing Iowa's largest budget ever. This may prove to be confusing to many, since budgets were cut an average of 11% in human services. This reality of much of the additional money that makes this the largest budget is comprised of federal dollars intended to help the effects of unemployment and stimulate the economy. Another portion of those funds are borrowed dollars to help repair infrastructure and put Iowans back to work. The issue of how much money was spent, and how it was spent will probably be a big issue as the legislators return home this summer and begin looking at re-election in 2010.

### **Some highlights and lowlights are...**

**Locally delivered mental health/disability services (MH/DS) got a big surprise in the final days of the session, an additional \$10 million. Counties were bracing for another very tough session of increased demands on capped budgets after the Health/ Human Services Budget (HF 811) passed with no additional funding for the upcoming fiscal year (FY2010). To balance the budget, legislators had to cut all allowed growth ( about \$8 million). Lawmakers decided locally delivered MH/DS services was a priority, so they put \$10 million of the state's federal stimulus dollars into the county MH/DS Risk Pool. Dates were moved up so counties could get money quicker.**

Unfortunately the \$10 million is one-time funds and the legislature did not factor it in the budget when they passed the FY 2011 allowed growth funds (SF 478). The FY 2011 budget year will see only 3% growth ( about \$8 million) basically skipping a year of growth and starting the state off \$8 million behind when the 2010 legislative session convenes.

Another group will be working over the summer to figure out the future of the state county mental health/disability services funding partnership (HF 811) The Health/Human Services Budget Chairs will appoint a group of stake holders to informally review options. This maybe the fifth or sixth group tasked with this responsibility, every time the group has concluded the problem is one of resources ( Not enough money).

Lawmakers did strengthen Iowa's laws that oversee employers who pay less than minimum wage to workers with disabilities, and more closely review boarding hour living situations. (SF 484). Legislators passed a bill recommended by the task force investigating the Atalissa boarding house situation, but were quick to say it was only the beginning.

Legislators failed to end insurance discrimination against persons with mental illness and substance abuse. Mental health Parity ( HF 234 and SF 418) laws fell one vote short of the 51 votes needed to pass. Six Democratic House Lawmakers killed the bill:

Rep. Mike Reasoner, Rep. Geri Huser, Rep Doris Kelley, Rep. McKinley Bailey, Rep. Roger Thomas and Rep. Brian Quirk. The bill would have required state-regulated health insurance plans to pay for the treatment of mental illness and substance abuse just as they do for any other illness.

While mental health parity did not pass, legislators did pass other insurance mandates that addressed other inequities in coverage. Insurance plans will now be required to pay for cancer treatment whether the medications are administered intravenously or by mouth (SF 478), pay for up to ten hour of outpatient diabetes self management training for people diagnosed with any type of diabetes (HF 478), cover costs of prosthetic devices prescribed by a doctor and determined to be medically necessary (HF 311), and cover the first 30 days of a child's stay in a Psychiatric Medical Institution for Children (SF 478).

Health care reforms continued, most notable extending state supported health care coverage to nearly every Iowa child starting in 2010. (SF 389). Parents will be required to report whether their children are insured when filing their state taxes ( and parents who qualify for state assistance would be required to apply for it within 90 days of receiving notice). Legislators also passed a resolution (HR) 6 that urges the adoption of disability friendly principles of Iowa's health care system.

A tax credit for businesses that purchase assistive technology or make adaptations in the workplace to accommodate employees with disabilities was repealed this year. (SF 478) The tax credit will no longer be available beginning tax year 2009. Despite increased effort to market the tax credit, only one business had applied for it since 2000. This may mean one of several things, either employers are not hiring persons with disabilities, worksites are already adapted, or they are making the accommodations because it is the right thing to do, not because they save on taxes.

Despite a work group and much discussion, legislators did not move forward in closing State Resource Center at either Woodward or Glenwood or one of the four

State Mental Health Institutes. Legislators did pass language in the Health/Humans Services budget (HF 811) requiring DHS make a recommendation on closing an MHI, working with a Governor appointed task force of stakeholders.

In the final hours of the session, legislators agrees to the Governor's plan to borrow \$765 million to pay for the construction and repair of Iowa's infrastructure (roads, bridges, public transit, trains and buildings). The plan will help fund things like the construction of a new Czech and Slovak Museum and Public Library in Cedar Rapids, both of which were destroyed in the 2008 flood and \$25 million in grants for the deployment of high speed broadband internet across the state. The bill called I- Jobs is intended to put people back to work and stimulate the economy while repairing Iowa's infrastructure.

*Keeping the Boat Afloat:*

*Rising above the Flood of Adversity*

October 14-16, 2009  
Cedar Rapids

Iowa Rehabilitation Association  
&  
Great Plains Region NRA



**SAVE THE DATE**

**I.R.A. CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN  
"CITY OF FIVE SEASONS"**

By Jonathan Ice, president-elect

The annual IRA training conference will be held on 14-16 October 2009 at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center (525 33rd Av SW, 319-366-8671) in Cedar Rapids, the "City of Five Seasons." There were a number of motivations for locating our conference in CR. It has been a long time since we have had a conference in this part of the state. Cedar Rapids' proximity to several of the state's major urban centers, as well as the University of Iowa, should make this attractive. IRA participation has dropped off in east-central Iowa, and we hope that plunking our conference right in the middle of this area may spur renewed interest. Lastly, I live here, and it's just easier to make arrangements in one's home town.

It shouldn't be news to anyone that Cedar Rapids has had a tough time over the past year. It is a dubious honor that, nationwide over the past decade, the damage caused in CR by 2008's floods was exceeded only by that experienced by New Orleans and the Gulf Coast in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Downtown and several riverside residential neighborhoods still are gravely affected. CR is gamely trying to make a comeback, but recovery will be a long process. These troubles figured at least in part for the theme for this year's conference: "Keeping the Boat Afloat: Rising Above the Flood of Adversity."

If you are interested, you may check out some of this recovery process, but we are not coming here to wallow in the mire (or at least its aftermath). The hotel is located in the middle of a lively commercial and lodging strip that was not affected by the floods, and also close to much other dining and entertainment. As the second largest city in Iowa, Cedar Rapids has a lot to offer.

Of course, our main reason for coming here is to cultivate our ties within the rehab community and to get training to advance and improve our careers. There will be ample opportunities to do so. The program committee is developing what we think will be an exciting program schedule. Our keynote speaker will be Earl Hipp, a highly regarded speaker from our region, who will be addressing maintenance of professional esteem in challenging times. And, yes, we also will have time to mingle and have a good time. Keep tuned to further IRA releases for more details. I look forward to seeing many of you here.

Room rates at the Clarion are a very affordable \$79 per night if you reserve before 22 September. Please see the enclosed registration form for conference rates.

**2009 IRA Board Member  
Contact List**

**President-Harlietta Helland**, [harlietta@marshallnet.com](mailto:harlietta@marshallnet.com)  
**Vice President-Matt Bruinekool**,  
[matt.bruinekool@drake.edu](mailto:matt.bruinekool@drake.edu)  
**President-Elect-Jonathan Ice** 319-365-9111  
[jonathan.ice@blind.state.ia.us](mailto:jonathan.ice@blind.state.ia.us)  
**Secretary-Mary Augustus**, 515-573-8175 (work)  
[mary.augustus@iowa.gov](mailto:mary.augustus@iowa.gov)  
**Treasurer-Rosie Thierer**, [rosie.thierer@blind.state.ia.us](mailto:rosie.thierer@blind.state.ia.us)  
**Past President- John TenPas**, 515-281-5969  
[john.tenpas@iowa.gov](mailto:john.tenpas@iowa.gov)  
**Board Member-Curt Jones**, [curt.jones@iowa.gov](mailto:curt.jones@iowa.gov)  
**Board Member-Lisa Chellew**, [lisa.chellew1@va.gov](mailto:lisa.chellew1@va.gov)  
**Board Member-Gary Johnson**,  
[gary-johnson@uiowa.edu](mailto:gary-johnson@uiowa.edu)  
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**Board Member- Mary.Ott@iowa.gov**  
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**Board Member-Mike Williams**,  
[mike.williams@iowa.gov](mailto:mike.williams@iowa.gov)  
**Membership Chair-Victoria Kollmann**  
[victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us](mailto:victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us)  
**Newsletter Chair-Suzanne Paulson** 515-229-7748  
[Suzanne.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:Suzanne.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov)  
**Awards Chair-Marcia Gracey**, [m.gracey@mchsi.com](mailto:m.gracey@mchsi.com)  
**Nominations Chair- John TenPas**,  
[john.tenpas@iowa.gov](mailto:john.tenpas@iowa.gov)  
**Legislative Chair-Ellen Sokolowski**, 1-800-432-5852,  
ext. 3280 [ellen.sokolowski@iowa.gov](mailto:ellen.sokolowski@iowa.gov)  
**By-laws & Policy Chair-Roger Carter**,  
[roger.carter@iowa.gov](mailto:roger.carter@iowa.gov)  
**Division Chairs**  
**RCEA - Rehabilitation Counselors and Educators**  
**Association-Victoria Kollman**  
[victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us](mailto:victoria.kollmann@blind.state.ia.us)  
**JPD-Job Placement Division- Matt Bruinekool**  
[matt.bruinekool@drake.edu](mailto:matt.bruinekool@drake.edu)

**Please contact any of these individuals if you have questions about or suggestions for IRA!**

## 2009 CHUCK WOOD MEMORIAL AWARD

The **Iowa Rehabilitation Association** is seeking nominations for the Chuck Wood Memorial Award. This award is given to recognize the achievements of a person with a disability who has attained a high level of independence, self-reliance, and self-sufficiency in the community.

If you know of a person who has demonstrated achievement of their goal of independence in their community and personal life, we strongly encourage you to submit a nomination packet.

**The Chuck Wood Award will be presented at the Iowa Rehabilitation Association Annual Conference Awards Banquet.**

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NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR, ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

.....

A nomination packet may include:

- One or more nomination letter(s)
- Information concerning the nominee's disability
- Nominee's personal achievements

Please send your nomination packet to:

Jonathan Ice  
Iowa Department for the Blind  
411 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE, Suite 700  
Cedar Rapids IA 52401-1837  
jonathan.ice@blind.state.ia.us

**Nominations should be submitted no later than September 1, 2009**

Iowa Rehabilitation Association  
2009 Brag and Steal Conference  
Developing Partnerships to Improve the Quality of Employment  
for Individuals with Disabilities

**Date:** July 17, 2009

**Time:** 8:30 -4:30

**Location:** Botanical Center in Des Moines

**Scheduled Presentation**

Getting Jobs the Way the Experts Do It – Dr. Robert Stensrud, Professor, Drake University

This presentation will discuss how to use social networking as an effective way to get jobs. It will examine how rehabilitation counselors can use social networking for employer development and how they can teach consumers to use it for job searches.

Consortium for Employment Success Model – Dr. Dennis Gilbride, Professor, Syracuse University

This presentation will be an introduction to the Consortium for Employment Success (CES) model that is designed to improve employment opportunities for rehabilitation consumers by increasing the collaboration of local service providers.

Employer Disability Resource Network – EDRN Partners

This presentation will discuss the EDRN's collaboration efforts and find out how networking with partners to meet the business customers' needs is working. At the end of the session you should leave with ideas, solutions, and resources that will strengthen your relationship with local employers.

Transition Collaboration: Helping Students Move From School to Jobs – Mary Augustus & Denise Hubert, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services Area Office Supervisors.

Learn how collaboration between schools, AEAs, and adult service providers helps students reach their job goals.

eMentoring: Connecting our youth with working adults – Debbie Stevens, Coordinator of Career Services, William Penn University

This presentation will discuss the collaboration and partnerships vital for building and sustaining an eMentoring Program from the perspectives of education, business, and other community organizations. Successes, challenges, and impact will be summarized, and participants will take away resources, such as an eMentoring Guide and Collaboration Map, to support their own initiatives.

Partnership Plus: How Employer Networks can collaborate in the delivery of services. – Doug Keast and Mary Lynn ReVoir from Iowa Workforce Development and Ruth Allison from Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation

This presentation will discuss how collaboration between employment networks can be of benefit to everyone including the customer. The presenters, using IVRS and the One-Stops as a model, will examine how employment networks can work in concert to serve the community.

*For additional questions about the conference please contact Lindsay Walker via phone at 515-271-2126.*

# BRAG AND STEAL REGISTRATION FORM

Friday, July 17, 2009  
Des Moines Botanical Center  
909 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Registration opens at 8:00 a.m.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please postmark registration on or before July 3, 2009. All prices include lunch.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student \$40  
\_\_\_\_\_ IRA Member \$55  
\_\_\_\_\_ Non Member \$65

Registration after July 3, 2009 or day of the event.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student \$50  
\_\_\_\_\_ IRA Member \$65  
\_\_\_\_\_ Non Member \$75

Please list any accommodations you may need in order to participate (special seating, Braille program, large print, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please select one of the following cold sandwich menu options:

\_\_\_\_\_ Turkey \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Ham \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Salad  
Veggie

Completed registration with payment may be made payable to Iowa Job Placement Division and sent to Marcia Gracey, 4512 SW 16<sup>th</sup> St., Des Moines, IA, 50315. If you have any questions, please call 515.243.0042.

**2009 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE**

**Iowa Rehabilitation Association  
Great Plains Region - NRA  
October 14-16, 2009**

**REGISTRATION**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone: (w)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(h)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name you want on nametag \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Early NRA Member Registration by Sept. 22 \$95.00** \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesday only \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday only \$60.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Friday only \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Registration after Sept. 22 \$105.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Early Non-Member Registration by Sept. 22 \$110.00** \_\_\_\_\_  
Non-Member Registration after Sept. 22 \$120.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Registration by Sept. 22 \$70.00** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student at \_\_\_\_\_)

Additional Award Luncheon Ticket \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Work CEU fee \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Dietary Needs:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Accommodation Needs:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL registration form and check payable to Iowa Rehabilitation Association to:**  
Marcia Gracey  
4512 SW 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50315

**CEUs are being requested for: CRC, CDMSC and Social Work.**

**Hotel Information**  
**Clarion Hotel & Suites**  
**525 33rd Avenue SW**  
**Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404**  
**319-366-8671**

**Please contact the hotel directly to get the discounted rate of \$79.00 per day. Special rate cut off date is September 22, 2009. Mention that you are with the Iowa Rehabilitation Association. Reservations made after September 22, 2009 are not guaranteed the discounted room rate and will be subject to availability. Notify the hotel of any special needs you have.**

**IOWA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION**  
**Victoria Kollmann, MEMBERSHIP**  
**319 MARIE AVENUE**  
**Elk Run Heights, IA 50707**