

## 2022 AMTA Assembly of Delegates Report - Nevada Chapter

### **A LOOK BACK & A LOOK AHEAD**

### A Delegate's View by Naomi Joy, BCTMB

The oncoming season and its respective shift in temperature, daylight hours and weather is an annual prompt for change. The transition from Winter to Spring serves to remind us that change is not only necessary, but inevitable. After the past 2 years, for most of us, the word 'change' has triggered a mix of emotions, including anxiety and excitement. I am no exception. As a newly appointed AMTA Delegate, I have experienced both, aiming to learn from those who have served before me while bringing a new perspective to the proverbial table.

At this point in the year, we are in between the last and upcoming AOD (Assembly of Delegates) meeting, which occurred in Cleveland, Ohio late last August. While there had been a few position statement submissions, the focus of our last meeting was a reiteration of how Delegates can best serve their chapter, based on rhetorical questions posed to the AOD via virtual 'open houses' and online discussions. The meeting, moderated by Jessica Ferrer, AODAC Chair, began with an overview by Angela Barker, Chair of the Volunteer Engagement Committee, and small group discussion topics centered around how we as Delegates can provide value to our association and profession. These topics included what chapter leaders should require from their Delegates, the expectations for their roles, how leadership can support Delegates in their effectiveness, reviewing how proposed discussion topics and statements can be submitted, and how the AOD can make themselves more approachable to our members.

I was inspired by the enthusiasm and engagement of each Delegate. It was very encouraging to see both veteran and new volunteers eager to reconnect and impact their chapter in positive ways. I was also moved by those who brought forth their concerns and challenged our organization to prioritize our focus on legislation impacting our industry nationwide. After being on hiatus due to the global pandemic, it was clear that the need to reconvene was urgent. It was evident by those that spoke, that the human connection and socialization amongst colleagues was missed most by those who have been with AMTA in years past. Equally so, was the zealous desire to advance our profession by those new to the AOD community.

Moving forward, I hope to witness and participate in both through the AOD. Challenge can spark healthy change and connection motivates it. As one of your chapter Delegates, I am here to advocate for you and our valued industry, but we are simply individuals. What substantiates our role is the participation and communication of LMTs in our chapter like YOU! I encourage you to be involved and reach out. Read our publications, respond to our surveys, attend our CEUs and annual conventions. We welcome your presence, value your feedback and kindly ask you to consider volunteering, in any capacity. You, the skilled and educated professional, are the foundation for AMTA and we are honored to represent you.

Respectfully Submitted: 3/15/2023, by Naomi Joy