



**Chapter President Rick Wiles
Would Like You Know....**

What a great year. First, I would like to personally welcome all the new members to the NM chapter. Hope to see you at our FREE (to members) Annual Meeting & Mini Conference. I have been busy traveling across the southern part of the state talking to massage therapy schools about AMTA. I have visited Las Cruces (thanks Sharon), Hobbs, Ruidoso, and Artesia. I plan to work my way north this year. If you would like me to visit a group in your area, please contact me.



We are looking for volunteers for the EMS Region III Conference in Ruidoso. We will be providing chair massage from April 29th-May 1 for the EMTs. We also plan to coordinate massage therapists with emergency services personnel for emergency response teams in your area. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering for an emergency response team or assisting at the Region III Conference.

THERE IS NO GREATER HEART THAN THAT OF A VOLUNTEER! Hope to see you in Ruidoso.

Our mission is to support members in developing the art, science, and practice of massage therapy in a caring professional and ethical manner in order to promote the health and welfare of humanity.

Amendment to the NM Massage Therapy Practice Act affects inactive status

There has been a revision to our regulations concerning “inactive status” as a massage therapist. No longer will your license be placed in *automatic* inactive status if you have not renewed at the end of a 60-day grace period. Under the previous wording, your license would automatically expire if not reactivated in a 2 year period. Effective July 1, 2011, a LMT must submit a written request to the NM Massage Board requesting commencement of inactive status and pay an annual fee. For the full text of House Bill 481, visit our website [here](http://www.amta-nm.org).

Have you seen our Facebook Page? [Connect](#) with members!



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Upcoming Events

March 26-27, 2011
Annual Meeting & Mini-Conference
Ruidoso

March 26, 2011
Board of Directors Meeting
Ruidoso

April 29, 2011
NM Massage Therapy Board Meeting
Santa Fe

April 29-May 1, 2011
EMS Region III Conference
Ruidoso

July 14-17, 2011
NM Family Physicians Conference
Ruidoso

Annual Meeting & Mini-Conference - March 26 & 27, 2011

Our Chapter's Annual Meeting will be held in beautiful [Ruidoso, NM](#) on Saturday March 26th and Sunday March 27th, 2011. We will have **8 credits of continuing education**, a business meeting, annual board elections, and many excellent door prizes. This event is **FREE** for AMTA members; we just ask that you show your membership card at the door. Non-AMTA members are welcome at \$60 for Saturday or Sunday, or \$120 for the entire weekend. Non-AMTA members - please bring exact cash or a check at the door.



The meeting and conference will be held downtown at the [Hotel Ruidoso](#), close to restaurants and shopping. For those traveling from out of town, check for reservations at the [Hotel Ruidoso](#) or [Comfort Inn](#), or one of the other [local hotels](#). Ruidoso is a beautiful mountain town, perfect for a weekend getaway. The Hotel Ruidoso is within walking distance of great restaurants and shopping. Try your luck at the casino at the [Inn of the Mountain Gods](#), and watch The Charlie Daniels Band perform on Sunday March 27th.

Schedule of Events:

Saturday March 26

8:00-10:00 - Blood Pressure: The why, how and meaning for massage therapists (Rick Wiles)

if you have a blood pressure monitor, please bring it for hands-on instruction

10:00-12:00 - Ethics (Rick Wiles)

12:00-2:00 - Lunch on your own

2:00-4:00 - Board Meeting and Elections (open to all)



Sunday March 27

8:00-12:00 - Prenatal Massage Primer* (Christine E. Thompson) *participants are requested to bring a massage table, sheets, lubricant, shorts and a sports bra for hands-on instruction*

This is a great chance to earn your 8 FREE CEUs. Earning your FREE CEUs can pay for half your annual AMTA membership! Come talk to the AMTA-NM Board about massage in your area, what you envision for the Chapter's future, and network with your colleagues. You might even go home with some great door prizes.

Please **RSVP** for this great event to [Rick Wiles](#) by **March 20th**. If you can bring a massage table to the Prenatal Class, please let Rick know in your RSVP. For instructor bios, please visit our [website](#).

*Prenatal Massage Outline: Combination of lecture & hands-on techniques addressing the common complaints of pregnancy.



- Massage and the reduction of stress
- Benefits of Prenatal Massage
- Myths of Prenatal Massage
- Contraindications for massage including shiatsu points
- Essential oils/herbs and prenatal massage (handout)

Welcome New Members

Brian Acree	Albuquerque
Samuel Allen	Santa Fe
Charlie Pena	Farmington
Chance Cierra Rose	Roswell
George Leo Swearington	Santa Fe
Karen Denise Watrouse	Albuquerque
Helen Ashby	Belen
Lorraine Kahneratokwas Gray	Santa Cruz
Justin A. Meyer	Edgewood
Amanda Nicole Miles	Hobbs
Donald F. Schiff	Albuquerque
Ken Wilhelm	Chimayo

Legislative Massage at the Roundhouse

For the past twenty years AMTA members have been providing complimentary onsite chair massage for New Mexico representatives and senators during the legislative session in Santa Fe. We would like to thank those members that participated during the 2011 session from Monday, March 14 through Friday, March 18.

Dan Barrow	Donald Schiff
Jesse Byrd	Resa Schreffler
Christine Hodges	Amy Zampella

The Chapter would like to thank Dan Barrow, Government Relations Chair, for organizing this event.

AMTA-NM Government Relations Report by Dan R. Barrow - February 2011

The New Mexico Massage Therapy Board (NMMTB) met on October 8th 2010 and January 28th 2011 in Hearing Room #1 at the Regulation and Licensing Department 2550 Cerrillos Road in Santa Fe. Several AMTA members were in attendance including NM President Rick Wiles.

Representatives from the Albuquerque and Santa Fe police departments gave verbal presentations in October and January respectively regarding the growing prevalence of unlicensed therapists, prostitution, and possible human trafficking masquerading as legitimate massage establishments (often "Chinese Massage Parlors"). Investigations are active in both communities; arrests have been made and more are anticipated. Attendees were encouraged to be on the lookout for possible illegal activities and report such to [Crimestoppers](#).

Kirstie Segarra the new Chair of the Board discussed medical insurance billing by massage therapists and the "Clean Claims Act" under which participating providers are protected when billing in New Mexico.

There was continuing discussion regarding whether or not it is appropriate under NM regulations for LMTs to give facials. It seems that some spas have been requiring LMTs to provide facials that are requested by their customers, and that facials might in fact be exclusive under the realm of cosmetologists or estheticians. The board chooses to have no official position on facials by massage therapists but rather to refer inquiries to the respective licensing laws governing facials and massage therapy.

Dan Barrow presented AMTA's position on entrance exams for massage therapists in addition to the written report sent by AMTA national government relations staff member Bill Brown. Although AMTA encourages the adoption of one test (and prefers the MBLEX) emphasis was given to the autonomy of state licensing boards to determine whether one or more entrance exams is appropriate for each jurisdiction.

There were basically no additional reports given by the members of the Board as the other material that was to be dealt with had to be done in executive session.

The next meeting will be on Friday, April 29th at 1:30 in Santa Fe (Hearing Room #1 2500 Cerrillos Road).

AMTA-NM Newsletter

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