

MiOTA, Southwest Chapter Meeting 9/16/14 Summary:

Attendance of 29 at the Rider-Sammons Residence.

The meeting started with 30 minutes of networking and dinner.

- 1) Peggy McCourry, pediatric occupational therapist, gave an informative presentation on the Interactive Metronome, including the benefits to clients, how IM works, and examples of treatment protocols. Contact her with questions or if you want to visit her clinic to learn more: [pegtheot@aol.com](mailto:pegtheot@aol.com) , Phone: 269-792-2353.
- 2) Denise Hoffman, MiOTA's Advocacy Director, shared updates on what is going on in the state. As a state organization we continue to focus on the Autism Bill, improving the legislators' awareness of occupational therapy/our unique services, and Medicaid. Increasingly, we find ourselves in the position of defending our licensure and concern about other professions, such as ABA therapists and Life Brokers, encroaching upon our practice areas. Stay tuned for town hall meetings around the state sponsored by MiOTA for informing and equipping occupational therapists to make a difference! Questions or to volunteer to help, contact Denise: [dhoffmanot@gmail.com](mailto:dhoffmanot@gmail.com)
- 3) Cathleen Johnson, MiOTA membership chair, shared that as of June 2014, the state has updated the rules governing occupational therapy. [http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-35299\\_63294\\_27529\\_27545---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-35299_63294_27529_27545---,00.html) She put out the challenge for each MiOTA member to recruit just one other OT/COTA/student to join. We really need the numbers and income if we want OT in Michigan to prosper. Currently less than 10% of registered professionals belong to MiOTA.
- 4) Flyers and information were offered for:
  - MiOTA membership;
  - Contribution form for Friends of OT in Michigan PAC (contact [debra.lindstrom@wmich.edu](mailto:debra.lindstrom@wmich.edu));
  - Donations for the silent auction to benefit the OT PAC at the state conference;
  - MiOTA Advocacy Day (October 9 from 1:30-4:30 in Lansing, (email [miotaadvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:miotaadvocacy@gmail.com) ));
  - The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Barb Rider Colloquium (October 3, 8:30-4:00, [www.wmich.edu/ridercolloquium](http://www.wmich.edu/ridercolloquium) );
  - CarFit, September 29 1-3 pm at Sunnyside United Methodist, (call 1-877-926-8300);
  - Annual Michigan Occupational Therapy Conference, October 9-12 in Lansing, (email Holly Mauk, [hmauk@mhsa.com](mailto:hmauk@mhsa.com) ).

Attendees of the meeting on 9/16/14 will be sent a CEU certificate via email soon. Thanks to Dr. Atchison and the Western Michigan University OT Department for providing these.

Respectfully,

Christine