

# Communicator

## ASSISTED LIVING ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA

### Fall Conference Recap.



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Three hundred registered for the Fall Conference in Mobile!

That good showing even in these economically challenging times demonstrates the commitment of ALAA members to providing excellence in all we do.

Kelley Mitchell did an outstanding job representing the ADPH in her first “at bat” giving the semi-annual ADPH report.

Dr. Richard Powers made his retirement official as he

made a return to our speaker list. In all, your evaluations have been collated are very positive about the venue and the curriculum.

After the Education Committee finalizes the report we will incorporate you comments into our next conference.

Speaking of which...the Spring Conference will be in Birmingham next March and will mark the 20th anniversary of the Association. We will be making big plans!



### AHHCHOO-FLU!

**Do not delay getting your flu-shot appointments made. It is already flu season again. If you haven't received your schedule information from ALAA for Vaxxim contact Amy or Carol to get your fall flu vaccine information.**

**Or contact Vaxxim directly at (334) 444-2327**

VOLUME XXII / ISSUE VI

OCTOBER 2011



## Region Meetings to Discuss Regulations

Just My Opinion  
Frank Holden

**If** you are one who rarely attends Region Meetings, this round of meetings might be the exception.

From November 1 through November 22 ALAA Region Meetings will be an open forum to review, discuss, and formulate our recommendations to ADPH for revision of the ALF rules.

Even though the topic is ALF specific there are many areas that will have impact upon SCALF operations.

Reforming the survey process, due process, dispute resolution, frequency of surveys and the scoring methods make up the first of five topical areas under review.

ALF Resident eligibility and cognition determination is the second topical area under discussion.

The third area of concern is defining what skilled activities are most appropriate for the ALF environment and what skilled nursing protocols should be prohibited in the ALF.

The fourth topic that will be discussed deals with administrator training and oversight. In this section we will talk about ways to use the "Emergency Permit" provision in the BOE regulations to better ensure competent administrators are in place when vacancies occur.

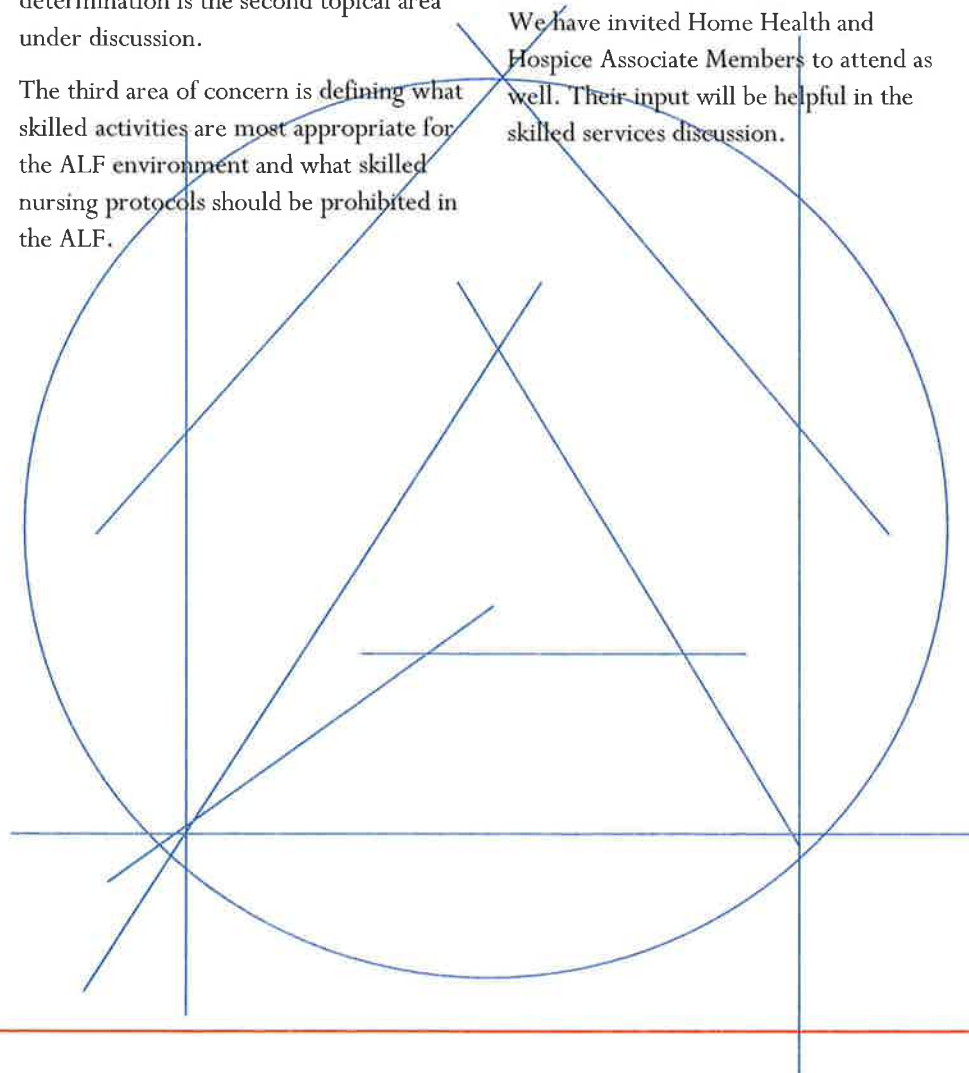
And last, Life Safety issues will be addressed. Granted, we have less latitude here because of the national Life Safety Code, but we want to all get on the same page for our ALAA recommendations.

The Draft Task Group Recommendations have been sent out to every ALAA member. If you did not get a copy, call and request one. (We will make limited copies available at the Region Meetings.)

We have invited Home Health and Hospice Associate Members to attend as well. Their input will be helpful in the skilled services discussion.

*Don't miss this opportunity to let your voice be heard.*

*Now is the time to draw the blueprint for the future of Assisted Living in Alabama..*



## Big Changes at Robinson Adams Insurance

Robinson Adams Insurance is an Associate Member of ALAA and has consistently been one of our major supporters in education and risk management.

The Healthcare Division at Robinson Adams Insurance has been a consistent partner with ALAA members for the past 24+ years, providing Insurance, Risk Management, and Claim Management services.

Robinson-Adams Insurance has merged with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc., the fourth largest insurance brokerage and risk management company in the world.

In the official announcement Robinson Adams said, "We believe this merger will create significant value for our clients because Gallagher Risk Management Services brings great knowledge, expertise, experience and clout to the ever changing healthcare marketplace. The Gallagher culture, entrepreneurialism, and success will provide us with the opportunity to expand the professional services already offered by Robinson Adams to our clients."

"We do not anticipate any significant changes other than the great opportunities that we will have to improve and grow our resources to our Senior Living Community clients. Our commitment to you, our customer, is as strong as it has always been, and our insurance agency and health care team remain in place and are strongly committed to serving you and providing you with the continued excellent customer service that you have come to expect. We look forward to continuing to earn the confidence you place in us. You may also learn more about Arthur J. Gallagher at [www.ajg.com](http://www.ajg.com)."

Or Contact:

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## New Commissioner at Alabama's Department of Senior Services

Irene Collins has served as Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Senior Services for more than nine years after being appointed by Governor Bob Riley.

Commissioner Collins will retire Oct. 30 and Neal Morrison, a former state representative from Cullman, has been appointed by Gov. Robert Bentley to fill the position.

Morrison and Bentley served in the Alabama House together. Morrison now serves as executive director of North Central Alabama Regional Council of Government in Decatur and has overseen aging programs in Cullman, Lawrence and Morgan counties.

He is also the current Chair of the CON Review Board. While serving in the State Legislature, Morrison sat on the Sunset Review Committee which annually reviews such boards as the Alabama Board of Examiners of Assisted Living Administrators.

He has shown himself to be an able advocate for senior issues and ALAA considers him a friend. He has already instituted several reforms in his role as Chair of the CONRB.

He strictly adheres to the State Health Plan in steering the CONRB and has instituted policies to move contested issues to the Administrative Law Judge more quickly.

We believe Neal will be an outstanding advocate for seniors as he is installed in the new appointment as Commissioner of the Department of Senior Services.

While the Department of Senior Services does not have regulatory authority over Assisted Living, ADSS can be a powerful advocate and ally to ALAA and our seniors.

Congratulations to Commissioner Neal Morrison! We look forward to working with him at ADSS.



**BOE Administrator Licensing Training and Testing Schedule for 2012**

Dementia Training:

January 3, 2012

Section A Exam:

January 4, 2012

Administrator Training:

February 14-16, 2012

Section B Exam:

February 16, 2012

The remaining 2012 testing dates will be published on the BOEALA's website by November 1.

[www.boeala.state.al.us](http://www.boeala.state.al.us)

**All applications must be postmarked 30 days prior to the Section A exam.**

**Region Meeting Schedule-ALF Regulation Changes**

**Region 1-** November 1- 1:00pm  
The Terrace at Priceville, 200 Terrace Lane

**Region 2 & 3-** November 3- 10:00am  
Johnston Barton Proctor & Rose Office  
569 Brookwood Village, Ste. 901, Birmingham

**Region 4-** November 10- 10:00am  
Turenne PharMedCo Office  
355 Industrial Park Blvd, Montgomery

**Region 5-** November 21- 10:00am  
Atria Regency, 4720 Morrison Drive, Mobile

**Region 6-** November 22- 1:30pm  
Somerset East, 815 John D. Odom Road, Dothan

**Please bring a copy of the Task Group Changes that were sent to you. There will be limited copies available at the meeting.**

**If you need an additional copy, contact Amy or Carol at (334) 262-5523.**

**Welcome Beth Hurley-Newest ALAA Board Member!**

Beth Hurley, Executive Director and Administrator at ELMCROFT of HALCYON in Montgomery has been named by the ALAA Board to fill the unexpired term of Lynn Matthews who has retired. Beth will serve as the Education Committee Chair until September 2012 when she may stand for election.

ELMCROFT recently acquired the three Hearthstone properties in Alabama which gives them locations in Huntsville, Birmingham, Mobile, as well as the Montgomery campus.

Welcome Beth! Beth's board responsibilities will be Education.



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334.705.6673

Gary Wood  
334.319.3279

William Leonard  
334.444.2327

## 2011-2012 Influenza/ Pneumococcal Campaign

Vaxxim Inc. is the preferred provider of on-site immunizations throughout Alabama. We serve independent pharmacies to leading corporations with the same personalized service and attention to detail. With the leadership of over ten years experience in delivering vaccinations, Vaxxim can customize the scheduling of flu/pneumonia immunization clinics to meet the specific needs and goals of your facility. We can arrange for multiple clinics at each location, with times and dates that are most convenient for your facility.

In cooperation with ALAA, Vaxxim will be offering flu/pneumonia clinics to all ALAA members beginning the latter part of September 2011 thru December 2011. This service is provided at no cost to the assisted living facilities and offers an invaluable service to its residents and staff. Vaxxim would also like to extend this service not only to residents and staff but to family and friends. We provide educational and promotional materials to publicize your scheduled clinics and maximize participation. The only request for the facility is access to an electrical outlet and small area to set up a table. Vaxxim will accept Medicare Part B (HMO members not eligible); therefore Medicare Part B recipients can receive vaccinations at no charge. Residents at each participating facility that does not have Medicare Part B will be offered this service at the same rate as the staff (\$19/Flu and \$50/Pneumonia). All others seeking vaccinations will be charged a fee of \$25.00 (flu) and \$55.00 (pneumonia) which may be paid for with check/cash. All customers will be provided a receipt showing proof of vaccination.

Vaxxim, Inc. strongly encourages interested assisted living facilities to plan ahead for the upcoming flu shot season by submitting their requests for vaccination services as early as possible. Facilities are not committed to any exact date. It is asked that each participating facility fax this form with preferred dates for clinics to be held as soon as possible. Early remittances will allow for more accurate estimations of required inventory needed. **Please be aware that preferred dates are not guaranteed.**

**Yes! I would like to offer a flu/pneumonia immunization clinic in my facility.**

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Name \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please be aware that preferred dates are not guaranteed\*\***

	Date(s)	Time(s)
First Choice:		
Second Choice:		
Third Choice:		

For more information or any questions please call Vaxxim Inc. at 334-319-3279 or 334-444-2327.

**Fax completed form to (334) 705-6673**

## REGION MEETING OUTLINE

### Dates:

Region 1-	November 1, 2011- 1:00pm	The Terrace at Priceville, Priceville
Region 2 & 3-	November 3, 2011- 10:00am	Johnston Barton Office, Birmingham
Region 4-	November 10, 2011- 10:00am	Turenne PharMedC, Montgomery
Region 5-	November 21, 2011- 10:00am	Atria Regency, Mobile
Region 6-	November 22, 2011- 1:30pm	Somerset East, Dothan

2 hours

Presenter – Frank Holden

### *“Proposed Changes in Assisted Living Regulations”*

- I. Proposed changes to ALF regulations and how they affect SCALF operations
- II. Discussion of nursing practice in ALF and SCALF and recommendations for improvement
- III. Outside providers such as Hospice and Home Care protocols for best practice
- IV. Pharmacy management and medication assistance regulations
- V. License enforcement and due process
- VI. Recommendations from the membership not included in the ALAA Board recommendations

CEUs have been requested for the following professions:

- Assisted Living Administrators
- Nursing Home Administrators
- Social Workers
- Nurses



**ASSISTED LIVING ASSOCIATION  
OF ALABAMA**

***“Proposed Changes in Assisted Living Regulations”***

**Fees:**

**Members:** \$35.00 per registrant

**Non-Members:** \$55.00 per registrant

**2.0 Continuing Education Credits Applied for:**

Assisted Living Administrators, Nurses,  
Nursing Home Administrators and Social Workers

Check Which Date You Will be Attending: (✓)

- |  |                               |                                       |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Region 1-     | November 1, 2011-<br>1:00pm   | The Terrace at Priceville, Priceville |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Region 2 & 3- | November 3, 2011-<br>10:00am  | Johnston Barton Office, Birmingham    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Region 4-     | November 10, 2011-<br>10:00am | Turenne PharMedC, Montgomery          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Region 5-     | November 21, 2011-<br>10:00am | Atria Regency, Mobile                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Region 6-     | November 22, 2011-<br>1:30pm  | Somerset East, Dothan                 |

**Fax Completed Form to (334) 262-4603**

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

Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard/Total Charge: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_