

# Wren Notes

South Carolina Dietary Managers Association

March 2008 - Vol. 6, Issue 2 - Spring

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## DMA DATC II "Day at the Capitol"

February 26-28, 2008 Washington DC --- by Rick Schmitt



To my good friends, Rick and Cynthia,  
I appreciate your friendship,  
Best Wishes,

*Joe Wilson*  
Joe Wilson, Member of Congress  
SC-02-R

The Dietary Managers Association held it's "Day at the Capitol II" February 26th - 28th, 2008. It was an organized effort to gain support for a Bill that will enact legislation to protect seniors and promote food safety in Nursing Homes

and related facilities by requiring Certified Dietary Managers to be on site. Twenty-five DMA representatives from across the country visited with Senators and Congressmen to explain to them our concerns, and why the Bill is needed.

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## **BOARD MEMBERS**

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# DMA

DIETARY MANAGERS  
ASSOCIATION

# Message from the President

--- by Frances Brown

Dear SCDMA Members:

It is with much sadness that I have received a letter from Marlene Wilson, informing me of her resignation as SCDMA president elect; due to health, family and job issues, she feels that she could not adequately fulfill the responsibilities of the position. Let us keep Marlene in our prayers and hope she will be able to hold office at a later date. She has been such an asset to our Association.

The Credentialing Exam was March 29, 2008. A study review was held at Martha Franks Baptist Retirement Center, Laurens, SC, on March 15, 2008, time 9 AM until 4:30 PM. Good luck to all of you who may be taking the exam.

Those of you that celebrated

"Pride in Food service Week" in your facility, please write a paragraph or two on what you did and send to me. I would like to use them when I do the state achievement award application.

Rick Schmitt, Bob Sloan and I have attended several meetings with DHEC, trying to explain who we are and what we do; I think the meetings are very productive. DHEC had no idea what we do; they admitted that they have been educated. We hope to come to an agreement before April.

Hunger Week is held during the second full week April and we will be helping the hungry and less fortunate at this time. Our Fall Workshop is at Ocean Reef Resort in Myrtle Beach, SC; October 1--3, 2008; more

information to follow at a later date.

See you in Greenville,

Frances Brown, CDM,CFPP  
SCDMA President



# Treasurer's Report

--- by Karen Connell

Treasurer's Report as of March 06, 2008:

Checking: \$22,410.00

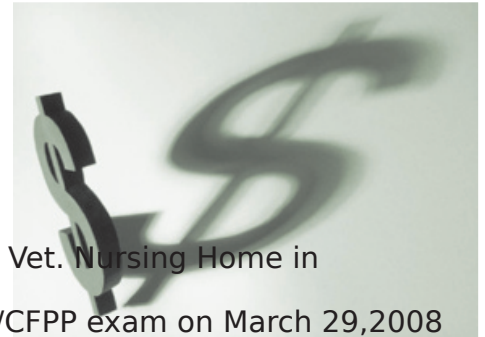
Savings: \$4136.00

Submitted by Karen Connell, CDM/CFPP  
Treasurer SCDMA

Congratulations to Robert Kelly who works for CES at Richard Campbell Vet. Nursing Home in Anderson, SC

He is the recipient of the Colleen Ham Scholarship Reward for the CDM/CFPP exam on March 29, 2008 this year. He met full criteria and has been involved in food service for 23 years. This is the 2nd award SCDMA has awarded. We all wish Robert much success!

**SCDMA EXECUTIVE BOARD & THE SCDMA MEMBERSHIP**



## DMA DATC II

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The group began weeks before we went to Washington by setting up appointments to see the Senators and Congressmen. Some were able to speak directly with the officials, while others spoke with their Legislative Aides, Policy Advisors, and Research staff. The folks we spoke with were interested to learn that there was currently no federal legislation as to the qualifications of Dietary Managers in Nursing Facilities. Some of the politicians were willing to support our cause, and some were not. It is unclear at this time exactly how much support we have. We will know more once the Bill is introduced.

The entire group had an enjoyable visit to Washington. We began on Tuesday evening with a reception Dinner where we all got to know one another. We were also briefed on what we would be doing for the next few days. After the reception, we were free to explore DC.

The next morning we began with our meetings. Cindy and I visited with Senator DeMint's staff. They were interested in what we had to say, but did not offer to sponsor or co-sponsor the Bill. After an exhausting day of walking, we went to a hosted reception at the Longworth Building, the oldest of the Congressional office buildings. There, we all met with a few Congressmen, and some staff members from offices that had received invitations.

Thursday began with a breakfast meeting with all of the DMA members. Many of us were saying goodbyes by then as most were going back to their homestates by noon. Cindy and I had a meeting with Senators Graham's staff in the morning, and meetings with Congressman Spratt's staff, and Congressman Joe Wilson in the afternoon. All were very interested in what we had to say, and were pleased that we had come to visit with them. Congressman Wilson and his Aide were very friendly, spoke highly of what we were doing, and talked about our hometown which he visits often when he is in South Carolina. We even got to take a picture with him in his office which he sent to us the next week.

It was an awesome trip. Everyone learned so much there about how our government works. You will hear more about our National endeavors as more information is available. Nothing moves quickly in the government – State or Federal. The SCDMA will be looking for Legislative Committee volunteers at the Spring Workshop. If you are interested in helping make a difference to your career, and the folks you serve, please contact me to see what you can do.

Rick Schmitt, CDM, CFPP – [chef\\_rick2000@yahoo.com](mailto:chef_rick2000@yahoo.com) or (803)894-5467/(803)691-5729

SCDMA  
DIANNE LAXTON CDM, CFPP  
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## Free DMA Annual Meeting Day for Students

DMA will offer a free one-day registration at the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia on Tuesday, 7/29/08, for all DMA-approved Dietary Manager Training Faculty and all dietary manager students.

Students will receive:

- Free one-day registration
- Free day of educational sessions
- Free day of DMA Food Show Expo attendance
- Free canvas meeting bag with “goodies”
- Free 4-hour CDM, CFPP Exam Review Course, presented by a DMA-approved instructor

Faculty will receive:

- All of the above
- Plus, RD’s receive 8 CPE hours on Tuesday, 7/29/08 (if all Tuesday sessions are attended)

Spread the word and offer to partner with a student to make the student feel welcome. Contact Pam Himrod, [phimrod@DMAonline.org](mailto:phimrod@DMAonline.org), to “Adopt a Student” for the day.

### South Carolina Dietary Managers Association

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