

November 2023



## **2024 Spring Conference**

**Date: April 19-20, 2024**

**Location: TBD, ND**

**Class: Clinical Orthopedic Manual Therapy (COMT) -**

**Regional Approach (Level 1) - Neck**

**Educator: Joseph Muscolino**



## **2024 Fall Workshop**

**Date: October 11-12, 2024**

**Location: Grand Hotel, Minot, ND**

**Class: Lymphatic Drainage Therapy**

**Educator: Rob Kelly**



**Keep checking our website and following our facebook page for updates on pricing and registration.**

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## Board Member Spotlight

### Tawny Opp - Secretary

Tawny has always had an interest in serving on the AMTA ND board. This year it finally fell into place for her. She became our secretary in June.



Tawny is originally from Bismarck, ND, and has practiced in both North and South Dakota. She has been a nationally certified massage therapist and AMTA member for 13 years, and is a graduate of Rasmussen College, Bismarck, ND.

**"An interesting fact about me is that I am pursuing becoming a NCTMB licensed K9 massage therapist. This will be bringing two of my loves and passions together - massage and dogs."**

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## National Massage Therapy Awareness Week (NMTAW) Recap

**INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? Contact us to help you set up a volunteer event in your area!!**



This year, volunteers raised \$200 to be split between St. Alexius Cancer Research Center and the Massage Therapy Foundation.

Volunteers included Jill Place, Ella Moch and Tawny Opp. They did 15 minute chair massages for CHI St. Alexius employees.



## THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO VOLUNTEERED

**Keep following our website and facebook page for updates upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!**

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## 2023 AOD National Meeting Review

This year at the National AOD meeting, we had two discussion topics.

1) Massage Therapy and Cancer Treatment Oncology is a part of our lives (personally or professionally). The objective was to discuss a position statement for the AMTA. The efficacy of massage for oncology patients, research and training, and education for the public were discussed. AOD members agreed a mission statement by the AMTA would support research, public education, and collaboration with cancer care teams. An anonymous vote sent it forward to the National Committee to Construct a statement for the AMTA.

2) How might the decriminalization of sex workers and the sex worker industry impact the Massage Therapy Profession, Statutes, Licensure  
This topic was brought forward by a group from Rhode Island. It was solely a discussion and not a vote. The overwhelming consensus at my table and from the body as a whole, was it absolutely should not. We discussed the protection of our members, safety of the public, language and laws, were among the discussion across the AOD body on this heated discussion. The protection of the term Massage Therapy (licensed, certified, registered) was discussed.

The research and public education by the AMTA is important in the role of protecting the Massage Therapy profession.

If any members have a discussion topic for AOD to discuss at the National Convention, I would be happy to submit it for you.

Desiree Bourgois van Oosting  
AOD, Outreach, Government Relations

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