

2010 Barbara Knothe Burn Therapist Achievement Award

Judith A. Carr, OTR



Judy held the distinction as being the most senior therapist member of the ABA among the ranks of both occupational and physical therapy and has held concurrent membership in both the ABA and the AOTA for 35 years. She joined and became a member of the ABA in 1979 and has been an ardent supporter of ABA activities throughout her career.

Judy began her burn rehabilitation experience as a staff therapist at the Western Pennsylvania Hospital Burn Center in 1974 following graduation from Temple University that same year. She worked in burn rehabilitation at several burn facilities throughout her career as a skilled clinician, teacher and stalwart member representative in the ABA. Judy co-authored the first manual dedicated solely to burn patient splinting in 1982. Additionally on her publication roster, she co-authored an early burn manual on scar control as well as four burn chapters and several additional articles and abstracts, including the 1996 ABA Education Resource Manual.

During her ABA tenure, Judy had delivered presentations at five ABA post-graduate courses and workshops as well as moderating another 11 Correlative or Sunrise Symposium Sessions. Additionally, she participated in delivering a segment on "ABA Committee Challenges and Conquests" at the 2008 Quinquennial Plenary Session. Outside the ABA, Judy has lectured on topics associated with burn rehabilitation both on a national and international scale. She sat as part of the initial NIDRR testimony hearings in Washington, DC in 1992 and later was a NIDRR reviewer for the first two rounds of grants in 1994 and then again in 1997.

Throughout her past thirty years of the service to the ABA, Judy has served on several ABA committees. Most notably, she was a member of the inaugural Rehabilitation Committee and served as Program Committee Coordinator for the 21st Annual Meeting,

pre-dating the annual meeting organization by the current ABA central office. Furthermore, after serving three years on the Membership Advisory Committee (nee Advisory Committee to the at-Large Membership Committee), she ably ascended to chair the Committee. From 1991 – 1994, Judy served in the capacity of an ABA Board of Trustees member with its inherent committee responsibilities. For her efforts, Judy Carr was recognized as recipient of the Curtis P. Artz Distinguished Service Award from the ABA in 1997.

During the most recent decade leading up to her retirement, Judy has been a member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the Journal of Burn Care & Research as well as a member of the Archives Committee where she had been responsible for the yearly archival displays at the ABA annual meeting. As her final contribution, Judy most recently participated as a representative to a Burn Rehabilitation Summit Meeting whose proceedings were published in the July/August 2009 issue of JBCR, further demonstrating her omnipresent involvement in the ABA burn rehabilitation community all the way up to her retirement in 2009.

Judy has been a mentor to hundreds of clinicians, students, burn survivors and most notably therapists and her inspiration will serve to spur the future generation of burn therapists to reach for and elevate the key role that rehabilitation plays in burns.