

Volunteering and Me: “I Drank the Volunteer Kool-Aid”

By: Valerie Smothers, LMT

With the close of our Fall Meeting in Elizabethtown, I got to mark an anniversary on my massage calendar... I celebrated my first year as an official volunteer of the AMTA-KY Chapter. Yep, I took that first sip and now I am happily swimming in it.

I got to attend CVOP (Chapter Volunteer Orientation Program) in Chicago this summer with AMTA volunteers from about 46 states. What a wonderful feeling that room had! All of these people gathered together to learn how to be a good volunteer for the AMTA and how to find more volunteers. Why? Because 10-15 volunteers will burn out pretty quickly.

So how do we find good volunteers? (YOU?) We find out one thing...

Where do your talents lie?

- *Do you like planning parties?
- *Is accounting a fun li'l hobby you don't talk about?
- *Are you a puzzle solver?
- *Can you take good notes? OK, can you spell? Great!
- *Does the thought of having an impact on the future of Massage Therapy in the state of KY make you dry wash your hands while laughing maniacally? (Yeah, we may need to check your resume...)

There is a place for you to volunteer with AMTA-KY. If we don't have something, we'll make it up. We want you to be an integral part of AMTA-KY.

The thing is...volunteering doesn't hurt. It actually feels pretty darn good (usually when an event is over.)

Now that you have the overwhelming urge to be a part of a great community by volunteering even 10 minutes of your time, your question should be “Who do I call?” (And that should be said as you jump up and down in your chair.) The answer is...any of the Board of Directors or Chairs...email us, call us, or send us smoke signals.

We will happily hand you that glass of Tropical Punch to toast the beginning of a fantastic relationship.

Valerie Smothers, LMT
Secretary AMTA-KY