GET TOGETHER: Continued from 3

the rhythm or beat of a song. Among other things, this gives the brain a workout in processing visual stimuli into physical actions, as well as being a lot of fun for all ages.

The Northwest Get-Together has become an annual event, and we are already looking forward to the Third Annual Get-Together next year. Partially based on the feedback we received, we are already exploring a number of important issues to present for next year, as well as alternate locations allowing time to network in an attractive north Idaho environment. Those who attended the Northwest Get Together — some from as far away as Vermont, Wisconsin and Florida — came away with new ideas and understandings from an industry that is continually evolving. Thanks to all who attended.

Don't spend your precious time asking "Why isn't the world a better place?" It will only be time wasted.

The question to ask is "How can I make it better? To that there is an answer."

~ Leo Buscaglia

LICENSING AND OTHER IMPORTANT MATTERS

By Larry Stednitz, PhD, IECA
Morro Bay, California
Woodbury Reports Affiliate

Licensing issues have become a major topic of conversations lately. I have watched the debates around licensing for the past couple of years. I watched and listened to the debates and I had trouble taking a position on this issue. I have always thought licensing or some form of accreditation was a basic necessity. From my early days in the field, namely working as the clinical director of Capistrano by the Sea hospital located in Southern California, our reality was that of course you were licensed or accredited by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Hospitals Organization (JCAHO). On the one hand, I recall the hours and hours of updating our policies and procedures, primarily to assure ourselves that we were in compliance, for out of compliance would mean a huge loss of revenues and our ability to treat patients would end. So due to that real issue, my thoughts were often "well of course a program needs to be licensed." It is my belief that any program working with teens needs to be licensed by some form of oversight group.

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