

FROM THE DIRECTOR COORDINATOR



BY

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This is my first report to the Journal since taking over as Director Coordinator from Cherisse Gigli, who had to step down due to pressing family circumstances. Once again, I'd like to thank Cherisse for all her work in this post and for her continuing support of NAHA. She laid the groundwork for our internet communications and monthly Director Coordinator online chats and rallied the troops with her unflagging enthusiasm. This is greatly appreciated!

While we have welcomed many new Directors since the Norfolk Conference in 2004, we recently lost one of our valued members. I know it was a great shock to all of us to learn of the tragic accident that took the life of the beautiful and talented Jillian Alexander (CA.) I never got to meet Jillian in person, but through contact over the internet and phone calls, I found her to be a passionate supporter and innovator in the field of Aromatherapy. Those who have read her articles or seen her lovely CD Rom, "The Spa Gardens, Inner Peace and Outer Beauty Start in Your Own Backyard" know that Jillian was a wonderful, gifted writer. Throughout her work, a great love for the plant kingdom is conveyed as well as her concern that others might share her vision. She was always quick to respond to questions from other Directors on our email list and in fact my last communication with Jillian was asking her if she would consider writing an article for the Journal on her extensive experience with Hemp oil after reading her answer to a question on that topic. I remember thinking it was odd that I didn't hear back from her right away and then a few weeks

later we learned that she had passed. It's almost impossible to imagine that she is gone and I'm sure that those who knew her best will agree that she will continue to bestow her aromatic blessings on us all. Please note that in Jillian's honor, NAHA has established a scholarship fund to help promote education in true Aromatherapy. Details can be found on the website at www.naha.org

On a happier note, I have been pleased to watch our numbers increase and to witness the level of interest among Directors in our Boston Conference. Lora Cantele (IL) and Deborah Halvorson (CA) stepped up to the plate to Chair the Tradeshow and Sponsorship committees. Barbara Fallenbaum (IL) has offered to coordinate volunteer efforts at the event. And many Directors have attended the online chats and given their suggestions and support to the PR efforts and other matters involving the Conference. The Board is deeply grateful for this and all the other ways our 29 Directors contribute to NAHA and true Aromatherapy.

Directors Pam Conrad (IN), Liz Fulcher (PA), Deborah Halvorson (CA), Jennifer Hochell (FL) and Shellie Enteen (SC) will present workshops at the Conference and Claire Schneider (NM) and Lora Cantele (IL) have created an exciting new addition to our website: Cooking with Essential Oils.

It was wonderful to see the photos in the Director List that appeared in the special Anniversary Issue of the Aromatherapy Journal. I send a heartfelt thank you to Kelly Holland Azzaro (NC) for all her efforts that continue to expand and improve the quality of the Journal and website. You and Michele make a great team!

Shellie Enteen, BA, LMBT

NAHA Director Coordinator