President’s Message by Jean Watling

“Thriving through Transformation” is the theme that National AORN President Renae Battie’ has selected for the 2015-2016 year. This past May I attended the 2015 Volunteer Leadership Academy. I had the opportunity to learn from and network with other new chapter leaders, national AORN leaders and committee chairs. We shared our ideas, successes and challenges. AORN staff members were there to provide support and resources that will help us lead our chapters. I returned to Richmond feeling renewed and invigorated.

The attendees of the Leadership Academy identified engaging younger perioperative nurses to become involved in our professional organization, growing chapter membership and communication as challenges that we all are facing. From our feedback AORN has started a monthly chapter leader networking session where we will learn about a topic and share ideas.

AORN Richmond has been involved in many activities this past year. Our chapter celebrated its 50th Anniversary in May. At the Surgical Conference and Expo in Denver we received the Bronze Chapter Excellence Award in the medium chapter category. A white paper was established in Virginia giving one perioperative RN for every patient undergoing an operative or other invasive procedure. We hosted a successful golf tournament and Spring Workshop. Our chapter has participated in many different community volunteer activities.

This year we have some great educational programs planned in conjunction with our chapter meeting. We are hosting the 2015 Golf Tournament at Hunting Hawk Golf Club to fundraise for nursing education in September. In November we will be sponsoring the educational program for the Fall VCORN Meeting.

Help our chapter build a stronger membership. Invite a coworker or student nurse to one of our chapter meetings. Welcome new members. Network with other perioperative nurses. Become a member of a committee. A committee sign-up sheet will be circulated at our September meeting. Our commitment to perioperative nursing and all of us working together will help us to continue to thrive in the midst of transformative change.
Board of Director Meetings in 2015

September 14 & November 2
Meetings will start at 6pm at St. Mary's Hospital in Room 156

Chapter & Local Meetings this Fall

**September 21**
Managing Chronic Pain: Truths & Myths
Dr. Maged Hamaz, Medical Director, VCU Spine Center
Hospitality: Margery Walsh, Medtronic

**October 19**
What’s New in the Trans-catheter Treatment for Cardiac Valvular Disease?
Dr. Marc Katz
Hospitality: Scott Powers, Medtronic COR Valve

**November 16**
Surgical Site Infection
Eric Davis, MS, BSN, RN, CNOR
Molnlycke Health Care Representative
Hospitality Provided

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**All AORN Richmond Chapter meetings will be at:**

**Advanced Orthopedics**
7858 Shrader Rd
Richmond, VA 23294

Dinner at 6pm, Business meeting at 6:30pm, Educational speaker at 7pm

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**November 7, 2015**

**AORN/VCORN Workshop: “Safety Doesn't Happen By Accident”**

Lateral Violence in the Nursing Profession, Bonnie Price, DNP, RN, SANE-A, AFN-BC

Active Shooter in a Hospital: What Should You Do? Lieutenant Ivan Lawson Henrico County Police Division

The Impact of the Electronic Health Record on Medical Liability, Sean P. Byrne, J.D.

Navigating Change, Marsha Engle LCSW, M.Ed

The workshop will be 4 contact hours & will be at St. Mary's Hospital in the auditorium.
Educational program 7:30am - 1:00pm & VCORN meeting 1:00pm -3:15pm.
Continental breakfast and lunch provided
**Legislative Committee Report** from Bonnie Vencill

We need members for the legislative committee! Please consider sharing your ideas and energy with our chapter. One goal I would like to accomplish is to update and improve our legislative webpage for our chapter and to keep it current and interesting.

Linda Barnes is the VA State Legislative Coordinator; Lady Sue Bell is our Region 2 NLC Representative and Bonnie Vencill is the NLC chair.

I am asking each of our chapter members to please take a few minutes to go to the AORN website ADVOCACY tab and actually scroll through the subtitle’s including: **AORN Legislative Priorities; Issues & Initiatives: Tools & Resources; Public policy news; and AORN advocacy Leadership.** The website is very user friendly.

Information concerning Perioperative Nurse Week will be available online soon. Your participation in this campaign is crucial.

AORN & ANA mirror each other on many issues. Collectively our nursing organizations accomplish much. Remember to keep your AORN membership current and utilize all the resources that are available. Consider joining the VNA and connecting with advocacy efforts of the ANA and the broader nursing community. Bonnie Vencill is serving on the Leadership IOM Virginia Action Coalition. New members are always welcomed.

Important dates: VCORN meeting Nov.7, 2015 Richmond, VA; and N.C/S.C. AORN Council meeting Nov.14-15 in Concord, North Carolina. The VNA fall conference and Gala will be held Nov. 20 and 21, 2015 at the Hilton Short Pump. The conference on Friday gives CEUs.

My email address is [bvencill57@gmail.com](mailto:bvencill57@gmail.com). Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

**Research Committee Report**

Carla Beattie, Cathy Sweeney, and Janet Shortt plan to perform a research project: “The Prevalence of the Use of Personal Electronic Devices in the Perioperative Setting” by anonymous survey with perioperative personnel. They met with St. Mary’s Applied Research Committee (ARC) on August 20, 2015. The received approval from ARC and will move forward with the IRB process. The study group for this research project will be AORN Richmond Chapter members, AORN/VCORN participants at the workshop on November 7, 2015, and St. Mary’s Hospital perioperative staff. Data will be collected and submitted as a poster presentation for 2017 AORN Expo and Conference in Boston, Massachusetts.

October 2, 2015 is the deadline to submit poster abstracts for AORN Expo and Conference 2016. Please contact Janet Shortt if you are interested in submitting a poster or interested in a research project: [janet_shortt@bshsi.org](mailto:janet_shortt@bshsi.org).
**Golf Tournament**

The Golf Tournament is Thursday, Sept. 17 at Hunting Hawk Golf Club. Currently there are 25 teams registered. We still need more golfers, teams, sponsorships and prizes. We are asking chapter members to donate $5 to cover prizes, golf balls and golf tees. As of today, we did not get the $2500 from Bon Secours or $1500 from HCA for sponsorships.

Ways & Means Committee:
We are planning a Pampered Chef online party in October and November. We still have Lapel pins to sell. We will have a table at the November VCORN meeting, where we will have the Pampered Chef catalogs, Lapel pins and 50/50 chances raffle.

Contact Bonnie Garretson with any ideas for fundraisers: black.labs.three@gmail.com

**Awards**

Congratulations Connie Alphin for recently receiving an Owens & Minor Scholarship!!!

**Volunteer Opportunities**

- Serving a meal at the Reinhart Guest House on Wednesday September 30th from 5-7pm: 8-10 volunteers needed
- Pet food drive for BARK (Bandit’s Adoption and Rescue of K-9’s): September thru November. Items needed: canned dog food, large milk bones, raw hides, Vienna sausages, 50 gallon industrial strength trash bags, metal pooper scoopers and bleach. Bring items to the AORN meetings in September, October & November.
- Dog walking with BARK in Ashland, VA. Date to be determined in October.
- If you’re interested in helping out or have volunteer ideas please contact Jessica Ooms at jessguido10@yahoo.com

**Nursing Recruitment**

- Let’s get nursing students involved in AORN. You can help out by donating funds specifically for student memberships. This is a way of giving nursing students encouragement, and it’s a way of ensuring that nursing students become interested in AORN and perioperative nursing. The cost is $20/membership. It’s a good way to grow young members. In order for this to be successful and sustainable, it requires our commitment. By supporting this initiative, you’re making one of the most important investments you can in AORN’s future. You’re supporting the future generation of perioperative nurses. To learn more about making a gift to support student memberships, please contact the AORN Foundation at Foundation@aorn.org.

- Recruitment Rewards Program: Recruit a new member to AORN and be entered into a $500 Visa gift card drawing. The race ends September 30 – start recruiting today! Go to www.aorn.org and search recruitment rewards for more information.