The picture and words above is our National AORN President, Patrick Voight’s theme for this coming year. As your President, I believe we can reach the peak of perioperative practice by providing safe quality perioperative patient care, while collaborating with others. Together we can accomplish so much! I hope each member had a wonderful summer and is ready to begin the climb to the peak this year.

Debbie Martin and I were able to attend the Leadership Conference in Denver, Colorado from July 17-19, 2009. We listened to dynamic, motivational speakers and networked with AORN staff and other members from all across the country. Our networking will give us guidance and ideas for our future decisions during these stressed economical times.

A committee sign up sheet will circulate at our September meeting. This is your chance to work with fellow members in small groups and build relationships! Through new ideas, reaching out of the box, and working together, we can accomplish much. You can and do make a difference to our chapter, our patients, and our community.

The ways and means committee will be hosting the Golf Tournament October 6, 2009 at the Richmond Country Club. The VCORN meeting will be October 24, 2009 at the Bon Secours School of Nursing.

Legislatively our chapter continues to work collaboratively with AORN Government Affairs and VNA. Joining AORN “grassroots” can be achieved online via www.aorn.org or calling 800-755-2676 via Government Affairs department. Each and every patient deserves a periOperative Registered Nurse. Do you have a personal story as the registered nurse caring for your patient that made an impact on care and/or safety? I encourage you to write your story and submit it to be published.

This year the Richmond AORN celebrates its 45th Anniversary. We have been blessed to have such great leaders that have taken us along this journey of perioperative practice.

Come and join the climb to reach our peak of perioperative practice.

Lisa
Board of Director Meetings

September 14, 2009  SMH  Room 159 @ 6:30 PM

November 9, 2009  SMH  Room 156 @ 6:30 PM

January 11, 2010 SMH  Room TBA

March 8, 2010 SMH  Room TBA

May 10, 2010 SMH  Room TBA

Upcoming Chapter Meeting Dates

September 21, 2009  6:00 PM
The Evolution of Treatment of Chronic Rhinosinusitis
By: TBD
SMH Auditorium

October 19, 2009  6:00 PM
Robotics: A New Standard of Care
By: June Hill
SMH Room 163

November 16, 2009  6:00 PM
Surgical Smoke
By: Rebecca McDowell
SMH Auditorium

December 7, 2009  5:30 PM
45th Anniversary Celebration
Westwood Club
Caspari Award Presentation

January 18, 2010
Preventing Inadvertent Intraoperative Hypothermia
By: Mary Vickerman
Room TBA

February 15, 2010
TBD

March 22, 2010
TBD

April 19, 2010
TBD

May 17, 2010
Officer Installation
Dinner Meeting

Newsletter and Website Info

See the Richmond AORN website for the latest newsletters, chapter activities, fund raising events, award nominations, and more. Go to www.richmondaorn.com Information for future newsletters can be sent to Debbie Martin at dlmar10@aol.com

“I’ve learned that enthusiasm is caught, not taught.”

From Live and Learn and Pass It On
Awards Committee

Nominations for the Mary C. Evans Award are closed. The award which recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to the Richmond AORN Chapter will be presented at the October Chapter meeting.

Congratulations to Ruth Vaiden, RN, CNOR, CRNFA(E), the 2009 recipient of the Richard B. Caspari Award. The award will be presented at the Chapter’s 45th Anniversary Celebration on December 7, 2009. Mark your calendar for the event!

Ways and Means

The Ways & Means Committee is busy planning for a golf tournament on October 6, 2009 at Richmond Country Club. A shotgun start is scheduled for 1:00 PM. Forms for participation may be found on the Chapter Website. We need lots of participation to make the event happen.

Continue to think about fund raising activities that we can participate in for the coming year. With the Avamed laws changing dramatically in July 2009, our medical partners will be affected as to how they may sponsor our fund raising activities. Any and all ideas will be welcome and considered.

If anyone is interested in ordering golf shirts (pink shirts w/ teal AORN logo), see Pat Frasher to order, pickup, and pay.

The results of the Ukrop’s fundraiser should be forthcoming in August. Our points this year were not as high as last year.

The results of the Fuddrucker’s week long benefit yielded a check of $15.54. While not a huge amount, every dollar helps to fund some aspect of the Chapter. Other restaurant benefits are being explored for fundraising activities.

Upcoming Events

September 11 - 12, 2009 - Informatics Conference, Denver, CO

October 24, 2009 - Workshop and VCORN Meeting – Sexuality and Aging

October 29 - November 1, 2009 - Fall Specialty Conference, Orlando, FL

November 8 - 14, 2009 - Perioperative Nurse’s Week

March 13 - 18, 2010 - AORN Congress, Denver, CO
Greetings! The Legislative Committee has not met this summer. We hope to gain new members and once again work together with the “EBP” Evidenced Based Practice Committee this year. Meeting prior to the monthly meetings prevents extra evenings away from family and friends. Please consider joining our group and bring a friend! Thank you to all who have joined the “grassroots” organization. One of our goals was to grow, expand and energize our grassroots organization for our chapter and state. Yes we have increased in numbers, but we still have room to grow. If your email address has changed, please take time to notify National AORN so your information can be updated.

The Virginia Board of Health Professions sent out invitations for comment on the need to regulate emerging professions: Surgical Assistants and Surgical Technologists in Virginia. Public hearings have been held to receive comments. Written and verbal comments were submitted by VCORN Chair (Steve Balog), AORN State Legislative Coordinator (Bonnie Vencill) and the VNA (Rebecca Bowers Lanier). After several meetings the Committee has deferred its decision on this issue to gather additional data on scope of practice, overlapping roles, and level of autonomy. Mr. Howell reported that the committee will be holding an additional meeting on Sept.30, 2009 as well as the regularly scheduled meeting in November prior to the full Board’s next meeting. We are hoping that one or all Virginian past AORN President’s Ruth Vaiden, Paula Graling and Patricia Seiffert will be able to assist us by commenting on this important topic.

VCORN (Steve Balog and I) and the VNA have collaborated in providing comments concerning proposed hospital licensure regulations (12VACS5-411-10; 12VACS5-411-420; 12VACS-411-430 and 12VACS-411-450) to the Virginia Department of Health.

The Legislative Coalition of Virginia Nurses (LCVN) continues to meet every month. Perioperative Nursing is represented with two votes from VCORN. They meet the first Friday of each month at the Bon Secours School of Nursing. Thank you Bonnie Garretson, Faye Hughes, and Donna Windereweede for attending when needed. We are always looking for new volunteers to represent us if Bonnie Garretson or I are unable to attend. The agenda setting meeting for the 2010 Legislative term was held on Aug.30 from 10-2pm at Bryant & Stratton College. The draft agenda was completed and sent to all the nursing organizations represented for review. The final agenda will be available Sept.24, 2009. We must continue our dialogue and collegiality with our nursing partners.

I hope everyone is registered to vote and is participating in conversations concerning health care reform.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie P. Vencill, RN, CNOR
Legislative State Coordinator VA/DC