President’s Message

Hello Colleagues,

Welcome back. I hope that all of you had a wonderful summer. It’s time again for our chapter to come together and meet as a group for our monthly programs. It is the mission of AORN to promote quality patient care and safety. We provide our members with a program every month. These programs provide contact hours without any additional cost to our members. We are active in communications with our legislature to keep them aware of and supportive of our efforts to keep the RN circulator in the OR and reimbursement for our CRNFAQs.

My goals for the chapter this year are many. I would like to increase membership by 4% (6 members) within hospital recruiting. I plan to increase the level of activity of our research committee from no activity to novice. I envision continued commitment to share our profession with elementary school students and nursing schools to promote the future of nursing. I wish to keep our members aware of what is happening on the legislative issues that affect our careers and patient care and their safety. I would like to see the membership committee develop a new member orientation packet with useful information about chapter involvement. The membership committee could also develop a program for membership drives with incentives. I would like us to continue giving to our worthy causes. Our fundraising events have not only helped meet our educational needs but also our philanthropic activities.

Our two fund raising events this year are the Gala and the Golf tournament. Please mark your calendars for November 23, 2002. This is the date of our third annual “All Star Gala 2002”. The ways & means committee is working hard to get things together for this night. Please consider helping out by selling, or buying tickets and attending. We are also looking for donations for the silent auction being held that night. See Bonnie Vencill if you have any questions or are interested in helping out. The golf tournament will be held on May 7, 2003 at the Crossings Golf Course. More information on this event will come later in the year.

I look forward to the coming year and encourage all of you to attend the monthly meetings. The networking and the programs are very beneficial. I hope you will feel free to contact me if you have any questions or ideas you would like to share. My home phone number is 804-714-2844. My e-mail is tamiezobel@cs.com.
I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer. Mark your calendars.

We are having a meeting **September 24, 2002** at St. Mary's Hospital in the ASU. At 6:30 pm the silent auction committee will report. Please bring descriptions and retail value information so the items can be documented for the planning of the program.

Then the gala meeting will follow at 7:00 pm with "stuffing of the envelopes" (invitations). Yes, it's almost here. Please come.

**Remember, you get points for attendance.**

Thanks,
Bonnie
All members are invited to attend Board meetings.

**September 16, 2002**
7 pm—Board Meeting  
St. Mary’s Hospital (Room 159)

**November 18, 2002**
7 pm—Board Meeting  
St. Mary’s Hospital (Room 159)

**January 20, 2003**
7 pm—Board Meeting  
St. Mary’s Hospital (Room TBA)

**March 10, 2003**
7 pm—Board Meeting  
St. Mary’s Hospital (Room TBA)

**May 12, 2003**
Board Dinner (Meeting Place TBA)

---

**Congratulations….**

**CNOR**
- Elizabeth Bishop  SRMC  
- Joan Hirsch  SMH

**RNFA Course**
- Nancy Potter  HDH  
- Charlene Crowder  HDH

**Perioperative Course**
- Jane Hess  HDH  
- Dawn Young  HDH  
- Katie Fitzpatrick  HDH
Monthly Chapter Meetings 2002-2003

Refreshments 6:30 pm
Meeting and Program 7:00 pm

September 23, 2002  Joanna Pitts, RN
“International Nursing”
St. Mary’s Hospital
Refreshments provided by US Surgical  Room 159
Meeting and Program 164

October 28, 2002  Paula Graling, RN
“Professionalism and the RN = Real Nurse”
Refreshments by Ethicon Suture
Bon Secours School of Nursing
Room 144

November 25, 2002  Dr. Gurpal Bhuller
“Holistic Medicine”
St. Mary’s Hospital
Refreshments provided by Depuy  Room 159
Meeting and Program 164

January 27, 2003  Dr. William Morgan
“Laparoscopic Radical Prostatectomy”
Refreshments provided by Ethicon Endo-Surgery
St. Mary’s Hospital  (tentative location)

February 24, 2003  Dr. Catherine Hollaway
“Deep Brain Stimulation Revisited”
Refreshments by Medtronic
St. Mary’s Hospital  (tentative location)

March 17, 2003  TBA
Please note early date due to AORN Congress
March 23-27, 2003 in Chicago
St. Mary’s Hospital  (tentative location)

April 28, 2003  TBA
St. Mary’s Hospital  (tentative location)

May 19, 2003  Joyce McCants, RN and Janet Shortt, RN
“Ethics in the Operating Room”
Dinner Meeting
TBA
The Awards Committee met to review nominees and select the recipient of the Mary C. Evans Award based on certain criteria. The Award will be presented at the October meeting.

Nomination Packets will be available at the September meeting or you may contact Faye Hughes to obtain a packet. There are many members of our chapter who are most worthy of this prestigious award. Please take the time to nominate someone.

Deadline for submission is June 1, 2003. The committee will accept these packets at anytime. If you need help, we will be more than happy to help you get this process under way.

Faye Hughes  
(work) 289-4643  
(home) 730-1553  
(email) hughesfo@aol.com  
hughesfo@hcahealthcare.com

I need to know any information to be displayed on our website like upcoming community, professional, hospital events/programs. Would members like anything else to be included on our site? Please let me know.

Sue Cheatham  
lcheat@hotmail.com

Several years ago, the Board of Nursing required RNs, LPNs, and CNAs to wear nametags designating their license, certification or registration. Recently the Board has discussed specifying that nametags include last names as well as first names. VNA would like to take a position on this if the proposal should move forward, and we want to make sure we represent the opinions of nurses across Virginia.

Some nurses have indicated that first names only indicate subservience, and would prefer to see both names. Others are concerned about their personal safety if patients can identify them outside the workplace.

What do you think? Send your opinion to vnainfo@aol.com.
# Richmond Area AORN Committees
## 2002-2003

### Awards:
- **Chair** Faye Hughes  
  Pat Frasher  
  Vicki Conover  
  Debbie Martin  
  Lila Jordan  
  Diane Evans

### Bylaws/Policy:
- **Chair (Bylaws)** Faye Hughes/Ruth Vaiden  
  **Chair (Policy)** Nancy Halbert  
  Debbie Martin  
  Susan Chandler

### Legislative:
- **Chair** Susan Chandler  
  Nancy Halbert  
  Ann Lewis  
  Shery Wilkinson  
  Beth Bishop  
  Robin Heath-Kahn  
  Bev Howerton  
  Helen Anderson  
  Bonnie Vencill

### Program/Education:
- **Chair (Program)** Robin Heath-Kahn  
  **Chair (Education)** Debbie Martin  
  Sue Wilson  
  M Neuendorf  
  Beth Bishop  
  Shery Wilkinson  
  Bev Howerton  
  Lisa Baltimore  
  Tamie Zobel

### Project Alpha:
- **Chair** M Neuendorf  
  Susan Chandler  
  Bonnie Vencill

### Research:
- **Chair** Lorna Gaulke  
  Helen Anderson  
  Tamie Zobel

### Delegate Selection:
- **Chair (Pres Elect)** Bonnie Vencill  
  Tamie Zobel  
  Helen Anderson  
  Ann Lewis  
  Sharon Vaughan  
  Kathy Scribner  
  Sue Wilson

### Newsletter:
- **Co-chair** Lisa Baltimore  
  **Co-chair (Web)** Sue Cheatham  
  Nancy Halbert  
  Kathy Scribner  
  Karen Charlotte  
  Helen Anderson  
  Helen Leary

### Ways & Means:
- **Co-chair (Gala)** Bonnie Vencill  
  **Co-chair (Golf)** Sharon Vaughan/Tamie Zobel  
  Sue Cheatham  
  Nancy Halbert  
  Kathy Scribner  
  M Neuendorf  
  Helen Anderson  
  Sue Wilson  
  Helen Leary  
  Vicky Conover  
  Lila Jordan  
  Diane Evans  
  Robin Heath-Kahn

### Membership/Marketing:
- **Chair (Membership)** Kathy Scribner  
  **Chair (Marketing)** Donna Clarke  
  Sue Cheatham  
  Tamie Zobel  
  Faye Hughes  
  Helen Anderson  
  Susan Chandler  
  Sue Wilson  
  Lila Jordan  
  Eileen Nixon  
  Diane Evans
All Star Gala 2002

The third annual All Star Gala will be at The Jefferson Hotel on November 23, 2002 from 6:30 pm -12:00 midnight.

Come with friends to enjoy the cocktail hour and silent auction, a delicious dinner, and prepare to dance the night away with "Casper." Individual tickets are $100. Table sponsorships are available. The highlight of the evening will be the designation of the Dr. Richard B. Caspari Award. This year our recipient is George Knaysi, M.D.

Our chapter is depending on your support for this fund raiser. Monies obtained will enable us to fund educational scholarships to our membership, donate to local charities and send delegates to Congress. This year The American Cancer Society and "CASA" (Court Appointed Special Assistance for children) were selected.

Thank you in advance to all Gala Committee members! Besides purchasing a ticket we're asking the membership to consider donating a silent auction item. Forms will be available at our September and October meetings.

Talk up the Gala!
Bonnie P. Vencill, RN, CN OR
Gala Chair

DID YOU KNOW

Your AORN Chapter offers:

Scholarship money to fund educational opportunities outside of AORN Congress?
Financial Loan to take the Certification Exam?
Assistance with dues?
Monthly educational sessions with approved contact hours?
Opportunities to network with nurses from other facilities?
Opportunities to be involved in the organization?
A website with current info about the chapter and applications?
Bio-Terrorism Readiness in the 21st Century
Speaker, Judith English, RN, MSN

Since 9/11, we are more keenly aware of the need to be prepared for bio-terrorism. Health care facilities must be ready to respond to a biological agent most likely to be employed in any future attack – such as small pox, anthrax and botulism.

The following four objectives were covered in her lecture:

1. Discuss importance of bio-terrorism readiness relevant to community/regional planning that is unique or comparable to other potential mass casualty disaster planning.
2. Describe reasonable working relationships among players.
3. Locate appropriate planning tools.
4. Relate bio-terrorism information to a perioperative setting.

Anthrax – was the hoax pathogen in 97 in the Binia Brith

APIC Mass Casualty Disaster Checklist

APIC/CDC Bio-Terrorism Readiness Plan – a template for health care facilities

CDC has recently put out the most readiness for small pox.

Tulerima – web site for APIC: www.Apic.org/bioterror

State and Local Bio-Terrorism Laws Emergency Meeting – Criminal provisions

10 Commandments of Bio-Terrorism Casualty Meeting as per CDC Randy Culpepper

1. Index of Suspicion
2. Protect self and patients
3. Assess the patient adequately
4. Decontaminating as appropriate
5. Establish a diagnosis
6. Alert the proper authorities – FEMA – smallpox
7. Treating promptly
8. Practice good infection control
9. Assist with Epidemiologic
10. Educate selves and others

Web Sites

- Apic.org/bioterror
- usa.mriid.army.mil
- neb.med.org
- bT.cdc.gov
- anthrax.osd.mil
- hopkins.biodefense.org
- stu.edu/colleges/sph/bioTerrorism/

Development of fact sheets for health care workers is certainty. Medical Management of Biological Casualties Handbook – US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases

Fort Detrick, MD is on the web site

You can download this document to a palm pilot and have for as long as you have batteries in an emergency in a disaster – Walkie talkies, radios, hard copies and CD ROMs would all be very helpful to have.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicky Conover