



South Bay AORN News

The newsletter for The South Bay Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) #0523
May 2007, Year 35, Issue 4

Presidential Pronouncements

By Monique Eriksen, President

Greetings!

It is hard to believe that my year as your Chapter President is drawing to an end. Carrying out the duties and responsibilities of this office has been a rewarding experience for me.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank of you for your support of the South Bay Chapter this past year. Special thanks are in order for all of those volunteers who have served as chapter officers, on the board and on committees. In addition, Mary Ritchie has done a wonderful job with the chapter newsletter and chapter web page, as well as sending e-mail announcements of the meetings and guest speakers.

Of course, there will be additional opportunities to serve in various capacities during the upcoming chapter year. If you are interested, please contact me or the President-elect, Sherry Jenkins. Please plan to attend the May meeting to show your support for the candidates for office, sign up for a committee, and network with other perioperative nursing professionals. Hope to see you there! 🌴



Congress Report

By Monique Eriksen, Delegate

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you as Chapter President at the 54th Annual AORN Congress. It was a great week of meeting fellow perioperative nurses, attending educational sessions, participating in the decision-making during the business sessions of the House of Delegates and Forums, and seeing lots of products and equipment on the exhibit floor. While many things remain fairly consistent, there have been some updates and changes.

There were many interesting educational programs to choose from, and new this year, each attendee received a CD with the education handouts in the Congress Resources book. Attendees could also print out the handouts from home prior to Congress, or at print stations on site. Attendees are highly encouraged to submit their class attendance and evaluation electronically. Many programs continue to be available for purchase in cd format, which is great if you missed out on a topic of special interest while attending to association business. The poster sessions (Research/Evidence-Based Practice, Clinical Improvement/Innovation) continue to grow and are informative. This self-paced learning allows the attendee to focus on topics of interest while reviewing a variety of creative posters.

Being in Orlando allowed for the Exhibitor's evening at Universal Studios - just not quite enough time to squeeze in all the attractions. We did have fun trying! Congress week is busy but quite rewarding as it provides another perspective for our role as perioperative nurses. It is really a time to recharge and focus on the positives of perioperative nursing!

Next year: Anaheim, CA.....plan to attend! 🌴

March 27, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes

By Barbara Maddox, Secretary

Call to order by Monique Eriksen on March 27, 2006 at 1800, with continuation after speaker at 2000.

Present at the post speaker meeting were Monique Eriksen, Sherry Jenkins, Barbara Maddox, Dana Bufka, Aileen Almazan, Toni Stafford and Bronakica Mhailovic.

President reported current membership (as of 03/26/07) as 75 members.

Treasurer's Report: Total \$4,203.99 (as of 02/28/07).

Unfinished Business: AORN Congress delegate reimbursement for Monique Eriksen (Chapter President), Sherry Jenkins and Barbara Maddox. They reported that they all had a great time and came back ready to work. As usual, Congress was very educational and motivating. We should be impressed with our nursing leaders and the great efforts they make on behalf of the nursing profession and improvement in patient care practices. Scott Pelley was one of the guest speakers and he spoke of his experience in covering combat medicine in Iraq. Another speaker was Jon Petz discussing our ability to find joy, success and personal fulfillment depending upon how we relate to our patients, co-workers, and others. The speakers were both very inspirational.

A vote was taken on Chapter Bylaws changes and passed unanimously by the post speaker quorum. (A quorum was not obtained until after the lecture at 2000 and those present are listed above.)

New Business: Monique Eriksen reported that we were not picked for the board member visit.

ORNCC (Operating Room Nursing Council of California) meeting will be held in Oakland May 5. If anyone is interested in attending see Monique for further information.

The educational program was held in between the business meeting.

The speaker was Nancy Lefcourt RN, MSN who discussed "Risk Management in the Perioperative Setting." She spoke of trends affecting the practice of perioperative nurses as well as strategies to reduce risk. This included the most common OR events causing risk and proper documentation. It was very informative and a great review.

Nancy Lefcourt is also very involved with March of Dimes and wanted us to be aware that the LA branch walk on May 30th at 11:00. For more information, go to <http://www.walkamerica.org> 🌴

AORN South Bay Chapter Officers for 2006-2007

President

Monique Eriksen, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
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President-Elect

Sherry Jenkins, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
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Barbara Maddox, Torrance Memorial Medical Center
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Board of Directors

Aileen Cabatan-Almazan, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
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Board of Directors

Frances Hikido, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
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Nominating Committee

Lilia Stuart, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
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Newsletter

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South Bay Chapter Officer Candidates for 2007-2008

President-Elect: Dana Bufka

Secretary-Treasurer: need candidates

Nominating Committee: need two+ candidates

Board of Directors: all positions filled

President will be current President-Elect: Sherry Jenkins

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

6 p.m. Business Meeting and Registration

6:15 p.m. Announcements

1.0 free contact hour (BRN # 11117)

South Bay AORN presents:

"Periop Jeopardy!"

Join us for Perioperative Jeopardy! Sherry Jenkins, RN, CNOR will present this fun-filled one-hour educational program providing an opportunity to test your knowledge on selected perioperative topics.

Voting for chapter officers at 6:16 p.m.

Torrance Memorial Medical Center, Health Conference Center

3330 Lomita Blvd., Torrance

Health Conference Center is adjacent to the West Parking Structure (Free Parking!)

www.torrancememorial.org/maphcc.htm for a map

RNs, STs, students, CRNAs, MDs, the public - everyone is welcome!



Installation Dinner - Tuesday June 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Lazy Dog Cafe, 3525 Carson Street, Torrance

(at Del Amo Mall - in the new outdoor area)

Reservations required by June 20 (see below)

The restaurant has a varied menu running from around \$8 to about \$21 per person and we can split the bill evenly so people will have an idea of cost before they go. There is a lot of parking in the new, well-lit parking structure and open lot off Carson. They do not take reservations but we can call ahead and Sherry can get there earlier. Those who are planning to attend can e-mail Sherry Jenkins (JenkinsSl@aol.com) or call 310-538-4767 before 7:00 p.m. (husband goes to bed early) no later than June 20. <http://www.lazydogcafe.com> has the menu and map.

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Congress Report

By Sherry Jenkins, Delegate

Thank you for allowing me to attend AORN's Congress as one of your representatives this year. It was another exciting meeting with lots of information and even some fun! Congress always seems to give me a needed shot in the arm of enthusiasm that lasts almost to the next one.

I attended many interesting programs but the one that may affect all of us the most was the update on the AORN Standards. Two of the guidelines have changed rather dramatically.

Selection and Use of Packaging Systems for Sterilization - several changes were made.

1. Total weight of the instrument containment devices should be no more than 25 pounds including instruments, wrappers, containers, etc. This is to allow for proper sterilization and to prevent injury. Basin sets should not weigh more than seven pounds. They reported that the container manufacturers and instrument companies are trying to reconfigure their trays to comply with this recommendation.

2. Count sheets should not be placed inside wrapped sets or container systems because there is no available research regarding the safety of toners and/or various papers subjected to any type of sterilization method. Chemicals used in the manufacture of paper and toner pose a theoretical risk of reaction in some sensitized individuals. This statement created much discussion in the group and the presenters really had no answer to the question of how accountability in preparing trays could be handled. They also stated that papers should not be put into peel packs in the trays either, because the toner could still seep through. The Recommended Practice also states that pouches **NOT** be included in wrapped trays or container systems because the pouches cannot be positioned to ensure adequate air removal, or contact with sterilant, or drying and has not been validated as effective by the manufacturers of the containers.

Use of the Pneumatic Tourniquet - the Recommended Practice is recommending using contoured cuffs on the limbs that taper between the upper and lower edges of the tourniquet such as in obese patients or patients that are very muscular.

One of the more moving programs was the general session with Scott Pelley from 60 Minutes. He told the story of a nurse anesthetist serving in a hospital in Iraq. After showing the televised interview he brought her onstage and did another interview with her. She told of her experiences and how all patients are treated the same regardless of whether they are American servicemen, Iraqi, or insurgents. They received a standing ovation. 🌴

