

# AORN OF GREATER CINCINNATI & HAMILTON, OHIO - Chapter #3601

**April, 2003**

Editor: Nancy Hellman

Chartered  
May 15, 1952

# THE CIRCULATOR

## *President's Message:*

*My year as President is coming to an end. It really surprised me at how fast the time went. I would like to thank the Chapter for the opportunity to serve, and your patience with me!*

*Thank you to everyone who helped me out over the last two years, as President-elect and then President. I know the experience was good for me, as it was way out of my comfort zone! Being involved with your professional organization helps you grow both personally and professionally.*

*So, everyone please join us at the meetings and our other chapter activities. We have some great speakers lined up. We were all very excited to have AORN National President-elect Bill Duffy speaking at our April meeting. Everyone really enjoyed his talk!*

*As AORN's priority is the Patient Safety First Initiative, we are all developing or fine-tuning our correct site surgery policies at our hospitals. Come and network with our Chapter members and see what your colleagues are doing to promote safety for our patients.*

*Hope to see you at the next meeting!*

*Donna Schlemmer  
President, 2002-2003*

### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS IN 2003**

- ◆ MAY 13: Karen Kilgore will speak "Nurses: On the Endangered Species List"  
May is also our Chapter election and installation of officers.  
Location: Dearborn County Hospital, Lawrenceburg, Indiana
- ◆ JUNE 10: Ann Marie Games will speak "Dysfunctional Uterine Bleeding"  
Location: The Christ Hospital
- ◆ JULY & AUGUST: No meetings—enjoy your summer!
- ◆ SEPTEMBER 9: Dr. Thomas Tami will speak "The Common Cold"  
Location: TBA
- ◆ OCTOBER 15: Joint meeting with CAPANA— Speaker TBA  
Location: Mercy Anderson
- ◆ NOVEMBER 11: Dr. George Kerlakian will speak "Gastric Bypass for Obesity"  
Location: Good Samaritan Hospital Auditorium

Any cancellations of programs and meetings will be announced on both TV Channel 9 News and Radio Station WGRR/103.5.

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

**Periop Nurse Recognition:**  
Beth Berter ~ 513/825-7515

**Bylaws & Policy:**  
Nancy Hellman ~ 513/481-5257

**Chapter Review:**  
Jeanne Kiser ~ 513/793-1239

**Continuing Education:**  
Susan Bacher ~ 513/569-1231

**Legislative:**  
Sandra Hobbs ~ 859/341-9248

**Membership:**  
Lois Belton ~ 513/451-6158

**Programs:**  
Nancy Hellman ~ 513/481-5257

**Scholarship & Awards:**  
Bonnie Volpp ~ 513/797-7450

***A THOUGHT FOR OUR MEMBERS***

**AORN of Greater Cincinnati & Hamilton, Ohio**



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Cincinnati, OH 45211**

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**AORN CHAPTER #3601  
Officers**

**President:**  
Donna Schlemmer 513/738-0472  
**Vice-president:**  
Bonnie Volpp 513/707-7450  
**President-elect:**  
Nancy Hellman 513/481-5257  
**Treasurer:**  
Kathy Wolfer 513/528-3160  
**Secretary:**  
Susan Bacher 513/569-1231

**Board of Directors:**

Lois Belton (2002-2004) 513/451-6158  
Nancy Fox (2001-2003) 513/272-3365  
Sandra Hobbs (2002-2004) 859/341-9248  
Lynn Miller (2001-2003) 513/474-8946

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS**

Thank you to the numerous members who have renewed! You know who you are; that list is long but not long enough. Every member needs to recruit and mentor. Bring a colleague to a meeting. Mentor them into becoming active and beyond. Come to a meeting and bring a peer. Enjoy the camaraderie. Become active! There are many committees on which to serve. Find one that suits your interests.

***We hope to see you at a meeting soon! Thank you for your continuing support of AORN and our chapter.***

Submitted by Lois Belton, Membership Committee Chair  
Regional Coordinator for Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, & Wisconsin

### **Highlighting the Dedicated Few:**

Even wonder what sparks some members to do more than their share? Who never seem to tire of another task heaped upon them? We have many members in our Chapter who give more than 100%. Here are some glimpses of just two of those! We asked them to tell us why they joined, what makes them so dedicated, etc.

#### **Lois Belton, RN, CNOR**

"I'm not totally comfortable with what sounds like 'tooting my own horn.' In college, it was drummed into me that I should belong to my professional organization.

A previous boss paid my dues to ANA, SONA, and the Buckeye State Nurses Org. I became active in the BSNO and served as President of the local chapter during the time the Ohio Nurse Practice Act was being revised (my first political involvement). Now I am a member of AORN's grassroots.

I belong to AORN because I've finally found a professional home where I'm comfortable and others share my beliefs and visions of nursing. It's true I am an RN first and a specialty RN second, but AORN speaks to my heart.

My husband, Tom, supports my involvement in AORN, just as I supported him while he was in the Air Force and the Air National Guard and away from home. Our kids, their spouses, and grandkids are an important part of our lives."

(Ed. Note: Lois has been an AORN member for many years and has served in almost every office available, from President, Secretary, Board as well as the chair of many committees. She currently is the Chapter Membership Chair as well as being the Regional Coordinator for Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin — a total of 43 chapters.)

#### **Susan Bacher, RN, CNOR, CRNFA**

"I went to my first AORN meeting in Memphis, TN, when I was 21 and in my eyes most of the Chapter members were about 60! I worked in the OR for one year and then left and worked part-time in other medical areas. I returned to the OR in the early 80's and there were a number of co-workers who were active in AORN who encouraged me to join and attend the meetings. The Memphis Chapter was much smaller than the Cincinnati Chapter but very competitive. We always had a number of people running for office. We often made our meetings a 'girls night out' and met for dinner out or had a potluck.

The nursing profession and perioperative nursing means a great deal to me. I have grown and learned so much by becoming and maintaining my certifications. It is all about the profession I chose and trying to do all that I can to provide the best patient care.

Being active in AORN keeps me informed of new things, how to resolve problems, networks me with many people across the U.S. and fosters friendships with peers, etc.

(Ed. Note: Susan has been a member of our Chapter since 1992. She has served as President, Vice-president, Board, as well as chair of many Chapter committees. Susan has also been on some AORN National Committees: Audiovisual, Education, Continuing Education Approval, and Membership. She currently is our Chapter Secretary.)



## Feel Lucky??

These lucky folks won \$50 for an educational program just by being present at a Chapter meeting!

2002 October—Melissa Backscheider  
November—Lynn Miller

2003 January—Sandy Hobbs  
February—Bonnie Volpp  
March—Lou Mulligan-Beasley  
April—Jeanne Kiser



WWW.AORN.ORG

A recent issue raised on AORN Membertalk: One of the members shared that one of her surgeons who got hot during the surgery had her put the Bair Huggar hose on ambient air and insert it under his scrubs! Some of the responses she got indicated that many thought it was pretty repulsive!

Another member indicated that some of the anesthesia people were using the hose under the sheets prior to bringing the patient into the room to “warm up” the sheets. Unfortunately, that would cause much lint on the sheets to become airborne and possibly contaminate a nearby sterile field! Not a good idea!

Do you have any issues for which you would like to get the nationwide opinion? Tune in to Membertalk!

WWWWW

## Here are the results of our AORN Chapter Survey from last Fall, 2002

*We would like to thank everyone who responded to the survey!*

*94% replied that they were satisfied with the location of our programs and meetings. There was one suggestion to have the same location each time.*

*90% were also satisfied with the day and time of our programs. Two persons requested occasional dinner meetings.*

*Ideas for speakers included: new technology, industry, legal issues with actual cases, pediatrics, topics needed for re-licensure.*

*Most respondents had participated in other AORN activities other than meetings.*

*Several persons expressed pleasure at our deletion of the open reading of minutes during the business meeting.*

*Most of the respondents noted that the program flyers are being posted in their hospitals.*

*Results tallied by Donna Schlemmer*

## Upcoming Chapter Event

Our Workshop Committee is working on a Fall Seminar and Vendor's Fair. Speakers and topics are in the planning phase. This will be an exciting and informative event. Please mark this future date and time so you can plan to attend:

**Saturday, October 4, 2003**  
**8:00 AM**  
**Good Samaritan Hospital**

## AORN CONGRESS 2003 HIGHLIGHTS

The 50th Congress had a total of 13,536 attendees (7,021 were nurses, 6,515 were exhibitors) and there were 303 student nurses in attendance.

AORN is changing the fiscal year from July 1 through June to a January 1 through December year. Our Chapter will also change this year as well. The Board checked into the feasibility of changing the state of our incorporation from New York. It was estimated that this would cost at least \$50,000 and possibly more so this will not be done.

This year at Congress for the first time, electronic voting was used on the floor of the House of Delegates. Roll call took about 15 minutes. It will be evaluated for future use. It was not used for candidate voting.

The Workplace Safety Position Paper was approved by the House. You can read about it in the Journal if you haven't already done so. During a Forum, the Members at large (MALs) proposed that their delegate numbers be increased to reflect the same way delegates are chosen in other chapters which would give them 115 total delegates.

The total delegates (cap of 1500) would be changed to allow more representation for the MALs and the e-Chapter Members while not changing any of the regular chapters numbers. All of the convention centers we now use are large enough to accommodate a larger number of delegates.

AORN now has an Ombudsman—Vivian Watson was appointed to this position. She will work independently, objectively, and confidentially to help mediate and resolve misunderstandings and disagreements. She noted that "It's an honor and privilege to serve this membership."

Check the AORN website for information about the Patient Safety First Audio conferences starting April 16 and ending September 10, 2003. There are six conferences with one fee for all conferences.

The chapter board visits will continue this year.

A Student Resource Kit is available as well as a "Primer for Perioperative Education"

The World Conference this year in China has been postponed. Check your Journal for a follow-up.

Submitted by Nelda Chandler

### Congress Opening Session

The official opening of the 50th AORN Congress was really spectacular with confetti cannons erupting throughout the hall.

Many other colleagues in the medical field brought greetings from their organizations. Ina Cushman, PA-C, President of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, noted that nurses and physician assistants work best when they "honor their similarities and respect their differences." Sandra Edwards, CST, President of the Association of Surgical Technologists, drew a round of applause when she said, "We support and share your belief that every patient deserves a perioperative registered nurse and a certified surgical technologist."

**Kay Ball, RN, BSN, MSA, CNOR, FAAN from AORN of Central Ohio won the Award for Excellence in Perioperative Nursing.** She urged all AORN members to strike a healthy balance in their lives and take care of themselves first. She outlined things that need to be balanced in life, including body, mind/soul, family, society, and finances. She noted that one of the most important parts of a balanced life is family.

### 50th Congress Election Results

\*Newly elected

For 2003-2004:

President Betty J. Shultz

\*President-elect William J. Duffy

Vice-president Michelle Burke

\*Treasurer Paula R. Graling

Secretary Sharon A. McNamara

Board of Directors:

\*Susan K. Banschbach

Lorraine J. Butler

Charlotte L. Guglielmi

\*Pat Hickey

\*Kathleen A. O'Toole

\*Mary Jo Steiert

Nathalie F. Walker

Nominating Committee:

\*Rhonda L. Anders

Michelle M. Byrne

Jane H. Flowers

Armando Riera

\*Deborah G. Spratt

### FUTURE CONGRESS DATES

2004: San Diego, CA March 21-25

2005: New Orleans, LA April 3-7

2006: Washington, DC March 19-23

2007: Orlando, FL March 18-22

2008: Anaheim, CA March 30-April 3

2009: To Be Determined

2010: Orlando, FL March 14-18

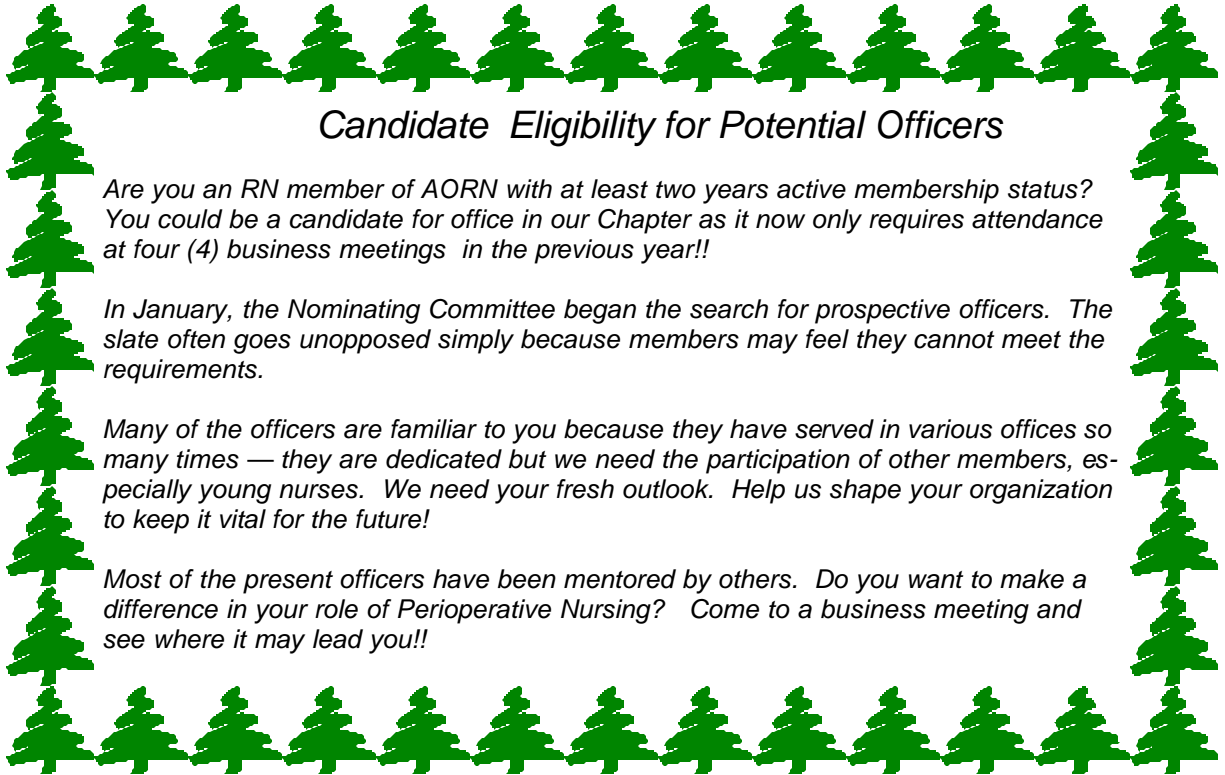
2011: San Antonio, TX March 13-17

Make your plans now to attend an AORN Congress!

**CANDIDATES FOR THE MAY ELECTION OF OUR LOCAL AORN CHAPTER:**

President-elect: Nelda Chandler  
Treasurer: Kathy Wolfer  
Board of Directors: Beth Berter, Jeanne Kiser, Julie McConnell (3 to be elected)  
Nominating Committee: Lynn Miller, Melissa Backscheider (2 to be elected)

Thanks to our Nominating Committee chaired by Jeanne Kiser for their preparation of this slate.



**Candidate Eligibility for Potential Officers**

*Are you an RN member of AORN with at least two years active membership status? You could be a candidate for office in our Chapter as it now only requires attendance at four (4) business meetings in the previous year!!*

*In January, the Nominating Committee began the search for prospective officers. The slate often goes unopposed simply because members may feel they cannot meet the requirements.*

*Many of the officers are familiar to you because they have served in various offices so many times — they are dedicated but we need the participation of other members, especially young nurses. We need your fresh outlook. Help us shape your organization to keep it vital for the future!*

*Most of the present officers have been mentored by others. Do you want to make a difference in your role of Perioperative Nursing? Come to a business meeting and see where it may lead you!!*

**AN ALTERNATIVE TO RUNNING FOR OFFICE!**

*If you are unable to run for office because of inability to attend business meetings (school, home, or work conflicts, etc.), perhaps you would like to join us during other AORN activities. Every November we do the Union Terminal O.R. display for the children and their families. We have many fund-raising activities from selling items (Entertainment Books, candy) to assisting with golf outings, etc.*

*In May and June, we have a committee sign up booklet that is available for joining the various committees. There's always something for everyone!*

*Want to find out more about the various committees? Call Nancy Hellman (513/481-5257 or e-mail at [nhell77@aol.com](mailto:nhell77@aol.com)).*

## **WAYS \$ MEANS UPDATE**

### **February Raffle Report:**

**544 tickets sold—Profit of \$348**

### **Winners:**

**1st Place—Lynn Miller (Holmes)  
Two nights stay in Gatlinburg**

**Second Place—Kim Wolf (University)  
\$120 Gift Certificate to  
the Aronoff Theater**

**3rd Place—Denise Nyberg (Childrens)  
\$100 Gift Certificate to Brio's**

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### **Entertainment Book Sale**

**Lynn Miller reported that we netted a  
profit of \$693 on our book sale last Fall.**

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### **Golf Outing Planned**

**Rick Goedde has volunteered to get a golf  
outing together this summer. He's look-  
ing for a Saturday date for all those who  
never could get a week-day off from work.**

**COME AND SEE THE NEW GREAT  
AMERICAN BASEBALL PARK FOR  
FREE!**

Have you been wanting to see the Cincinnati Red's new baseball park? Well, you can for free and at the same time help our local AORN Chapter earn money for our endeavors.

We need eager volunteers to help staff a small concession booth at a few Red's games. Our Chapter will receive a percentage of the sales of the concession stand.

This is a great way to help earn funds for your local AORN Chapter. You won't have to buy raffle tickets, sell other items, or beg our sales reps for sponsorships!

We just need your time and commitment. We will also be happy if friends or family members would also like to volunteer.

If you are interested in participating in this great event, please contact Beth Berter at 872-3348.

## **“Stop the Extinction— become an O.R. NURSE!”**

This is the message on the button currently being sold by our own Chapter. We began selling the buttons at Congress for \$2 each.

The sale of the buttons will be applied to the expenses of our organization (speaker fees, newsletter and flyer costs, etc.).

If you are interested in buying one or more, we will have them available at our regular AORN program/meeting dates. You may also contact Beth Berter at 872-3348.