

# the CIRCULATOR



AORN Chapter #4410 • Becky Churchman, editor • North Harris • Montgomery County • November 2006

## The AORN Mission

AORN is the professional organization of perioperative registered nurses whose mission is to promote quality patient care by providing its members with education, standards, services and representation.

If you were fortunate enough to have attended the October Chapter meeting at The Woodlands Children's Museum, you shared in a delightful and inspiring experience. Your chapter has been instrumental in the success of this venture since its inception. It has supported the museum with its time, money and other resources. The positive effect it has on the children who come from all over the U.S. will be felt for years to come. An important component of the museum's many offerings is the mock Operating Room. Children have a hands-on experience with perioperative nurse volunteers and are exposed through them to the nursing profession with emphasis on the perioperative arena. We are planting seeds. We are preserving Our Future.

As I compose my Gratitude List at this time of thanksgiving, I include our faithful AORN museum volunteers, Shirley Granger, Pat Hoge, Karen Kurland, Ann McKennis and others who are sharing their time and talents on our behalf and that of perioperative nursing. My Gratitude List also includes being able to be a part of a professional organization that provides its members with extensive educational opportunities, a multitude of avenues to connect with and learn from perioperative colleagues and one that has a set of practice statements giving sound direction for our practice setting. I am grateful that we have special week set aside to recognize and celebrate all perioperative nurses. My hope is that you are or have had a wonderful OR Nurse Week and that you have been recognized by your peers, industry partners and the facility where you work. Know that I for one recognize your professional worth and your value to this organization. Take a moment to applaud yourself and your colleagues. Those to whom you provide safe and outstanding care are blessed to have you. Thank you.

At Your Service,

*Shirley Dukes*

**"Good, better, best. Never rest.**

**'Til good be better and better best." -Mother Goose**

## AORN Perioperative Nurse Week

November 12-18, 2006 • *We're There for Safe Care*

Ever wonder how National Perioperative Nurse Week came to be? During a House of Delegates meeting in 1979, a resolution was approved proclaiming that AORN would designate a day every year to advocate the role of the perioperative registered nurse and the impact he/she has on the surgical patient. Historically, one day turned into a week, to become National Perioperative Nurse Week. In the words of our President, Paula Graling, "we have dedicated this year's theme, *"We're There for Safe Care,"* as an inspiration to the visibility of the perioperative nurse and a reminder that patient safety is one of the key elements of our daily practice. Let us champion quality improvement efforts and standards of implementations in areas such as safe

medication administration, fire safety, wrong site surgery, surgical counts and error reduction. We have the power to impact the delivery of safe care, which is of vital importance to all of us at the core of our professional values."

As advancing technology encroaches into the arena of the operating room with computers, paperless charting, and minimally invasive procedures, the basic fundamentals of aseptic technique, sterile consciousness, and critical thinking skills are entities that are unique to the practice of the perioperative nurse. We not only touch the lives of our patients, but of our colleagues as well. Let's let down our masks and become an advocate for safe patient care. Have a great week. -  
*Becky Churchman, CRNFA*

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# Legislative News

As the General Election nears its final moments, we find that there are last minute campaign pleas and political rhetoric among the candidates. Early voting ended 10/27/06 leaving the remainder of the eligible voters to cast their ballot on 11/07. The important thing is that you practiced your right and VOTED.

Issues on the ballot for this General Election include elections for U.S. Senators, U.S. Representatives, governors, state representatives, and judicial offices. To pass on a bit of trivia, there are 33 Senate seats up for grabs. Do you know who your Senate candidate is for Texas? Also varying other offices are up for grabs depending upon where you live.

A brief summary of nursing issues on the forefront at the Capitol Hill include: Sen. Hilary Clinton (D-NY) collaborated with ANA and the American Association of College of Nursing to draft the Nursing Education and Quality Health Care Act of 2006, (S. 4029) which was introduced 09/26/06; President Bush signed into law the Older American's Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-365) on 10/17/06. This law will help re-enact existing programs such as the Positive Aging Act which will help address the need for mental health services among the elderly; CMS dept. has made

**National News...** • AORN member, Becky Patton, RN, MSN, CNOR was elected to a two-year term as National president of the American Nurses Association (ANA).

• Chapter Education Grants for perioperative programs. Contact Ingrid Beneza @ 800-755-2676 or go to [www.aorn.org/foundation/chapter-grants.asp](http://www.aorn.org/foundation/chapter-grants.asp)

• AORN Journal is now available on line. Go to [www.aornjournal.org](http://www.aornjournal.org). In addition, the Journal invites all members to write feature articles about educational, clinical, management or research topics. Perioperative RN are the experts in their field... won't you share your expertise? For author guidelines see website listed above.

**TNA #9 News...** • 2006's Outstanding Nurses! TNA District #9 has announced 20

a proposed ruling to require all long term care (LTC) facilities to install fire sprinklers as part of a new fire safety program; ANA is working with the Congressional Nursing Caucus addressing concerns about the respiratory protections guidelines that were included in the 11/2006 National Pandemic Flu Plan. The plan is being criticized for recommending that health care workers wear surgical masks vs. respirators; The Dept of Health & Human Services (HHS) Agency for Health care Research and Quality (AHRQ) is collaborating with United Health Foundation to pass out 400,000 copies of the 2006 Guide to Clinical Preventive Services, a guide to evidence-based clinical preventive recommendations; lastly, an ANA hosted forum was held where nurses from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana met to discuss nursing staffing. This was one of ANA's "Coming to You" series promoted by ANA President, Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR.

AORN continues to pursue legislation in target states addressing the RN Circulator initiative. A bit closer to home Texas perioperative colleagues are preparing a nursing agenda with TNA's Nursing Legislative Agenda Coalition (NLAC) for the upcoming Texas biennium. For more info please go to: [www.aorn.org/governmentaffairs](http://www.aorn.org/governmentaffairs) and [www.capitolupdate.org](http://www.capitolupdate.org).— Becky Churchman, RN, CRNFA

**"No system can endure that does not march."** —Florence Nightingale

outstanding nurses in the area for 2006: Faisal Aboul-Enein, Tammy Brown, Terri Brown, Carol Carrier, Janet Donath, Debra Frye, Susan Garaygay, Pamela Greene, Chris Hawkins, Judy Ho, Mary Jennings, Debbie Jones, Sarah Livesay, Michelle Purdom, Arlene Quarles, Talulah Ruger, Mary Shepard, Cara Simon, Tangula Taylor and Carmen Watrin.

• Mary Holt Ashley received the President's Award. Recipients will be honored 11/16/06 at a dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel. For more info: [tna9@tnadistrict9.org](mailto:tna9@tnadistrict9.org) or call 713-523-3619. Chapter #4410 is honored to have two former honorees, Ann McKennis and Becky Churchman. (#4410 is donating a cookbook basket to help raise scholarship monies during this event.)



# Chapter News...In Brief

**Chapter Stats** To date Chapter #4410 has 117 members. Standard: 105, Retired: 7, Student: 2, Associate: 1, Faculty:

1, and Platinum: 1. Welcome to the ranks **Naomi Brown** of West Houston Medical Center and **Cynthia Chanel-McCoy**. In addition, welcome back **April Konkol** of KSF Orthopedic Surgery Center and **Beulah Mathes** of Conroe Regional.

## Dates to Remember

**11/12-18/06** Perioperative Nurse Week, "We're There for Safe Care"

**11/15/06** Chapter Meeting & Program, Tomball Regional Hospital

**11/16/06** TNA District #9 Nursing Celebration, Four Season Hotel

**12/01/06** The Woodlands Children's Museum Fundraiser, The Children's Museum, The Woodlands Mall

**12/13/06** Christmas Social location TBA  
NOTE THE DATE; THIS IS THE 2ND WED OF DECEMBER

**12/25/06** Christmas Day

**01/13/07** NLAC Meeting, Austin, TX

**01/20/07** AORN Greater Houston's Triple Star Gala, location TBA

**01/27/07** TCORN Workshop, Austin, TX

**03/05-06/07** Nurse Day @ the Capitol, Austin, TX

**Applause, Applause...** to **Melissa Thompson, RN**, Woodlands Children's Museum Director, for the informative update regarding activities for the Children's Museum and the personal tour for last month's meeting... to **Shirley Dukes, Pat Hoge, Shirley Granger, Karen Kurland** and **Ann McKennis** for providing refreshments for last month's meeting. Thanks, y'all. ...to **Mary Lynne Weemering** and **Becky Churchman**, who will be presenting programs at next year's Congress in Orlando.

**Snail Mail vs. Email** Your email addresses are needed to help expedite the delivering of the chapter newsletter. To help cut down on postage for the newsletter we need a current email for y'all. Also, if any communication needs to get to the membership quickly email seems to be the preferred method. Wouldn't you rather have a color copy of the newsletter vs. a black and white?

**Hear Ye...It's Raffle Time Again!** Two beautiful gift wrap baskets with all the trimmings have been donated by colleague, Marie Elliott. Pictures of the baskets do not do them justice. If interested in purchasing a chance for these awesome baskets, come to this month's meeting for a closer look. You might be holding the lucky ticket.

## Condolences

...to Jane Jennings and family during the loss of her husband, Mike. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Jane.

## Name Badge Required, Coat & Tie

**Optional** Did ya know that licensed nurses are required to wear some type of "insignia" when practicing nursing that displays to the public the type of licensure that the nurse holds, i.e. RN vs. LVN. Board of Nurse Examiners Board Rule 217.10 (b) further delineates the nurse's responsibility in wearing a name badge while at work. Board Rule 221.2 (b) requires that advanced practice nurses use the title authorized by the board, plus the RN license designation. The authorization of an ANP scope of practice is dependent upon the RN license. The NPA & rules are not prescriptive to credentials from certifying bodies for instance APRN-BC or CCRN. These are unregulated titles and not required by the BNE.



## AORN Chapter Committee Chairs

Budget & Finance

**Jean Franks**

CEU/Programs

**TBA**

Legislative

**Becky Churchman**

Membership

**TBA**

Newsletter

**Becky Churchman**

**Pat Hoge**

Community Service

**Ann McKennis**

Research/Scholarship

**Pat Hoge**

Special Awards

**TBA**

Policy/Bylaws

**Becky Churchman**

TCORN

**Pat Hoge**

Communication

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Ways/Means

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## RESEARCH REPORT

A surgery management protocol helps children with diabetes prepare for surgery.

Children's Hospital Boston has developed a surgical management protocol with the support of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for children with diabetes undergoing surgery. These children face a complex neuroendocrine stress response that can lead to hyperglycemic and diabetic ketoacidosis. NPO requirement prior to surgery may compound these metabolic effects and the resulting hyperglycemia can impair wound

healing and the body's infection fighting ability needed to recover from surgery.

The protocol consists of the anesthesiologist scheduling a pre-op consult to assess the child's metabolic control with the pre-op clinic and endocrine service at least ten days before surgery and when feasible, elective surgery for children with diabetes should be delayed until metabolic control is acceptable. To avoid prolonged fasting and early return to diabetes treatment regimens, these children should be scheduled as the first case of the day when possible.

The child's typical treatment regimen should be what the perioperative management plan is based on. Before, during, and after surgery the perioperative goal for the diabetic child is to maintain near-normal blood glucose levels of about 100-200 mg/dl. Before anesthesia is started a blood glucose determination is done and the insulin and fluid regimen during and after surgery depend on the duration of the procedure. Frequent post-surgical blood glucose and blood and urine ketone monitoring is essential. —Pat Hoge

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1823 Ash Meadow  
Houston, Texas 77090

# AORN Chapter #4410

North Harris/Montgomery County

proudly presents

## KATRINA & RITA THROUGH A NURSE'S EYES

presented by

**Kathy Bunker, RN, CNOR • RESERVE K-9 OFFICER**

**Wednesday, November 15, 2006**

contact hours pending

**SOCIAL 5:30 PM**

**BUSINESS MEETING 6:00-7:00 PM**

**PROGRAM 7:00-8:00 PM**

*bring a friend!*

Refreshments will be provided.

**Tomball Regional Hospital  
1st Floor Tower Conference Room**

>>>DIRECTIONS: **From I-45**, take FM 2920 west to Tomball, (takes you through town.) Turn left on Holderrieth St., this runs into the hospital. Drive around to the right side (west) of the hospital and park on the South side of the new 10 story tower.

**From Willowbrook Mall Area:** take 249 north approximately 10 miles. Turn right on Medical Complex Dr. Enter hospital at the South Tower Entrance

# AORN



### Museum Fun & Games

Wonder how many of these professionals were inspired long ago by this classic game? Gathered around a giant game of Operation at The Children's Museum, Chapter #4410 enjoys a personal tour of by Melissa Thompson, Museum Director, on 10/20/06. The group paused for this photo in the mock OR.

# Minutes & Notes

- Meeting called to order at 1800 by President Shirley Dukes
- Thank you to Karen Kurland, Shirley Granger, Ann McKinnis, and Pat Hoge for refreshments.
- Memory wreath reviewed-thank you to Joan Hesslink for placing flowers on wreath; please check memory book for names, there was an extra \$5 donated.
- Breast Cancer Awareness month is October; pink lid project continues; take a pink bag to your facility and encourage fellow workers to place pink lids from Yoplait products in them. Bring lids to December Christmas meeting and they will be sent to Susan B. Komen Foundation from #4410.
- We have received our first ad from Donna Hameier in Conroe. These ads will help defray the costs of the newsletter. \$25.00 per ad per month.
- Shirley handed out the proposed recommended practice for pneumatic tourniquets in the perioperative practice setting. Please review and check AORN website for revisions and give feed back to AORN.
- Minutes were corrected in regards to meeting date. Joanne Oliver congratulated Becky Churchman on another outstanding newsletter and stated it was the best newsletter she has seen written. Karen Kurland accepted minutes with correction and Pat Hoge seconded the motion.
- Finance report from Jean Franks: balance \$1943.55, added \$200 AORN dues, minus checks totaling \$225, leaving a balance of \$1918.55.
- Ways and Means scarves to be sold at AORN Congress are available in bags of 5 from Marylynn and spouse. Volunteer sewers take a bag and bring back to Pat Hoge and she will finish the hand stitching.
- Shirley announced that the AORN packet included 2007 volunteer coordinators favorite color is pink and pink golf shirts would be worn at Congress. Paula has suggested that each chapter send pictures with pink in the foreground. Ann volunteered to take some pictures and Becky would

review previous newsletter pictures for applicable pictures. Ann took group picture of members touring the Woodlands Children Museum. Suggestions for other pictures were of the rescue dogs at the next meeting and a picture with a pink flamingo. Shirley suggested we make a lot of pink scarves to sell at Congress.

- November program will be in Tomball by Kathy Bunker on "Rescue Dogs."
- The Legislative program has been changed from May to January in Conroe.
- Pat Hoge reviewed newsletter article and commented that 12% of GYN cancer patients are misdiagnosed. The article recommended that GYN cancer patients get a second opinion.
- Becky would like everyone to update their e-mail address. She mailed 27 newsletters this month which cost approximately \$10 in postage. Pat Hoge volunteered to call for e-mail addresses. Becky said the cost of adding extra pages to the newsletter amounted to \$10. The newsletter would stay at 6 pages at this time.
- Becky stated that there are legislative changes occurring and everyone should attend the January meeting and respond to all e-mails concerning legislative news.
- TCORN meeting is 1/28/07.
- Coalition meeting is 1/13/07.
- Board meeting is Monday, 10/30/06 at Cali Professional Building at 1830.
- Suggestion to donate a cookbook basket with kitchen stuff and 1 night bed/ breakfast stay to TNA silent auction. Motion by Becky with value of \$50-\$75. Seconded by Ann McKinnis. Motion passed.
- Shirley welcomed Aracela Rodriguez, student nurse attendee.
- Jane Hennings husband, Mike, passed away.
- Ann McKinnis thanked the Museum for helping with the meeting and introduced Melissa Thomas, RN, who showed slides of graphic conception of Museum, Museum at the Square, and current Museum and proposed progress. Melissa thanked all the AORN members who have volunteered. AORN was offered a tree to decorate for the Dancing with the trees on 12/1/06. The trees are auctioned during the reception from 7-10pm. If interested in attending, let Ann McKinnis or Karen Kurland know. Melissa conducted a tour of the current Museum and noted upcoming events and plans.- Cheryl Stevenson, RN, CNOR

**Your AD could reach over 500 local AORN Members through this AORN newsletter!** Business card size advertising space \$25 monthly. Premium space available at \$100 for 1/2-page. Advertise for 9 months and receive one month of FREE 1/2-page advertising space. Contact Donna Hameier, 832-717-0643 or [dhameier@houston.rr.com](mailto:dhameier@houston.rr.com) Advertising design help available. Space can be used for special messages also.

## Chapter #4410 website:

[www.aorn.net/me.asp?site=chapter4410](http://www.aorn.net/me.asp?site=chapter4410)

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