

The Bi-County Bulletin

A publication of the Los Angeles/Orange County Chapter
of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses

Volume 21 Number 3

September 2011



President's Message

Dale Wong BS, RN, CRRN

What a wonderful beginning as the 2011-2012 President of the LAOC Chapter of the ARN! We celebrated our 35 years as a chapter with a "Tea" at the Springfield Conference Center in Fullerton. Highlights included a variety of finger sandwiches, scones, fruit, cream puffs, a CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN and of course, tea! We even had fun selecting a colorful hat to match our attire.

We had an opportunity to mingle with "old" and new members, watch videos and look at pictures from years past and thumb through scrapbooks dating back to 1976! It was fun to reminisce and chuckle over how young we used to look! Then we took a stroll down memory lane with Marilyn Pires as she gave us a brief history of our Chapter and the people who started this great Chapter. Although some of our "founders" were unable to join us for this milestone event, there were several attendees that have been faithful members for over 25 years. Darlene Finocchiaro, held the record with 27 years! All together, we represented approximately 334 years of LA/OC ARN membership!

We, the Board, had so much fun planning this event. I so appreciate all the help and support from each and every board member as well as the leadership of Paddy, our past President. Special thanks to Rayhena for personally creating all eleven floral centerpieces for each table (which were presented to our loyal long term members), and Lynn for finding the perfect 35th Anniversary gift for members (a tri-fold clock & pencil holder), Aries too for designing the program/brochures and Marilyn for surprising guests with a special "gift" from Rancho Los Amigos, and sharing our Chapter's history with all of us.

The 2011-2012 Board is committed to another year of providing members and guests with educational opportunities, social events, support community events/organizations and continue to be recognized as a award winning Chapter of ARN.

We are proud to present our LAOC ARN Fall Evening Program and Dinner. Our very own Darlene Finocchiaro, PhD, CRRN, PHN will be sharing her doctoral dissertation, "Spiritual Well-Being: Predictor of Quality of Life for Persons with Paraplegia" which she will be presenting at the ARN Conference in Las Vegas. So, please join us on September 21, 2011 at Healthsouth Tustin Rehabilitation Hospital.

I am looking forward to seeing you at all of our upcoming events!

Our LA/OC Chapter of ARN has won the ARN "Local Chapter Recruitment/Retention Award !"

The summary of the award application stated:

"Our chapter is a hard working chapter who is consistent in quality and value to the members. We strive to support our community around us and we strive to support our members and our national organization. We are go-getters, we believe in the value of rehabilitation nursing! We are going to celebrate our chapter's 35th Anniversary this year and we are proud of that."

Thank you Crystal Barker, our Awards Chairperson, for submitting our chapter for this well deserved award. The award will be presented at the ARN Annual Educational Conference November 2 – 5, 2011 in Las Vegas.

LA/OC ARN Chapter Calendar

- Who:** LA/OC ARN members/Non members
What: Fall Educational Meeting: Spiritual Well-Being: Predictor of Quality of Life for Persons with Paraplegia
When: **September 21, 2011**
Where: Healthsouth Tustin Rehabilitation Hospital
Why: Education, networking, dinner
- Who:** LA/OC ARN members and Non members
What: Winter Social
When: **December 3, 2011**
Where: Luncheon at the Saka Seafood Buffet, Hacienda Heights, CA
Why: Socializing, networking
- Who:** LA/OC ARN members/Non members
What: Annual Business Meeting
When: **January 2012**
Where: TBD
Why: Planning for the new year.

ARN & Others Calendar

- Who:** ARN Members/ Non members
What: 3rd Annual West Coast Safe Patient Handling Conference
When: **Sept 12-15, 2011**
Where: San Diego Convention Center
Why: Education, Networking
Link: Valerie.Kelleher@va.gov | 813-558-3948
- Who:** ARN Members/ Non members
What: Cheryl Lehman, PhD RN CNS-BC RN-BC CRRN, "Polytrauma: Coping with Multiple Traumatic Injury"
When: **October 12, 2011**
Where: Webcast
Why: Education
Link: <http://www.rehabnurse.org>
- Who:** ARN Members/ Non members
What: ARN 37th Annual Educational Conference
When: **November 2-5, 2011**
Where: Rio Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada
Why: Education, Networking

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Crystal Barker MSN, RN-BC, CRRN
Pat Jurado, BSN, RN, CRRN
Rayhena Karim RN, CRRN
Vance Shaw BSN, RN, CRRN- Webmaster

CONGRATULATIONS !

Lynn Wetherwax was honored as the recipient of the Judith H. Stanton Memorial Distinguished Nursing Service Award 2011 by Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center. The award was presented to Lynn at the annual meeting of the Professional Staff Association on June 3, 2011. This award is named for Judy Stanton a dedicated Rehabilitation Nurse who served in several leadership positions during her many years of service at Rancho. Ms. Stanton was an active member of LA/OC ARN Chapter as well as the National Association. This award is given to a nurse who has demonstrated outstanding service to Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center and the patients treated there. Lynn received this award in recognition of her significant contributions which have had a profound influence on many programs within the medical center and furthered the goals of excellence in Rehabilitation and Education. Congratulations Lynn on being honored with this well deserved award!

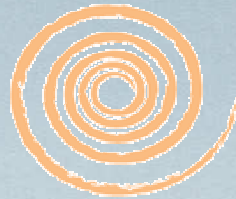
SUCCESS!

Currently there are 5 RN's who attended our PRN course in April who passed the CRRN exam in June!

Congratulations to the new CRRN's! There are more attendees planning to sit for the exam in December.



“Viva Las Vegas”



by Stephanie Vaughn
PhD RN CRRN
Conference Chairperson

The RIO in Las Vegas is the exciting venue for the 2011 ARN Annual Educational Conference, which will be held November 2-5, 2011. “Rehabilitation Nursing and Evidence Based Practice – A Winning Combination,” the theme of this year’s conference is appropriately titled; keynote and concurrent speakers will be highlighting evidenced based rehabilitation nursing practice, along with other current topics, such as the Institute of Medicine’s recommendations, changes in IRF-PAI, and the new Stroke Guidelines from the American Stroke Association. Papers and posters will focus on practice areas such as team nursing, leadership, safety issues affecting the rehabilitation client, pediatric rehabilitation issues, management of stroke, TBI, and SCI clients, and rehabilitation across the continuum.

The LA-OC ARN Chapter membership will be well represented in Las Vegas at the ARN Annual November event. Several members will be presenting papers and posters on various topics including, “bedside reporting in the rehabilitation setting.” Lynn Wetherwax and Paddy Garvin-Higgins both served on the Annual 2011 Conference Committee and Stephanie Vaughn served as conference chair. Dr. Nancy Donaldson from Northern California will be the keynote speaker and Dr. Ann Deutch will be presenting the Founder’s Address. We look forward to seeing you in Vegas for a fun-filled educational conference!

Stephanie Vaughn was elected as a Director at Large on the National ARN Board for 2011 – 2013. Congratulations Stephanie!

You can watch Stephanie’s induction at the ARN Annual Educational Conference November 2-5, 2011 in Las Vegas!

Unfortunately for us, during Stephanie’s term on the National Board, she will be unable to serve on our local chapter Board. Her expertise and energy will be missed, but will benefit the ARN Board greatly. However we expect she will keep us updated on happenings on the national level.

LA/OC ARN Chapter Summer Social

On Saturday July 23, 2011, forty members and friends of the LA/OC Chapter of ARN gathered to celebrate 35 years as a chapter with a "Tea" at the Springfield Conference Center in Fullerton. Good reminiscing, flowers, food, gifts, laughs, chocolate and hats were had by all!

