NEWS

AAOHN
Advancing the Profession of Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing

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From the President's Desk

Dear Members,

I am fortunate to live in an area that experiences four changes of season. Sometimes, that is how I see AAOHN. The organization keeps getting better and more actively involved in the work of occupational health nursing, but we also have our share of challenges. Currently the largest one is declining membership. AAOHN membership is around 4,700, yet we hear that there are thousands more occupational health nurses working. Where are they? How can we find them in order to offer them assistance in their professional organization? Hopefully you have heard about the chapter membership campaign in progress. It runs from February 1, 2013 – January 31, 2014. AAOHN is asking for the help of local and state chapters to find these nurses and recruit them to join the organization. Yes, there are prizes and currently, the Western New York, Northeast Iowa, Idaho Rocky Mountain, California Central Coast, and North Texas chapters are in the top five. In AAOHN's last Town Hall meeting, Bridget Page, President of the North Texas chapter, shared what her chapter is doing. I must say, they are using some very creative ideas. If you would like this information, please contact the National Office to access the presentation.

In September, I had the honor of attending the Florida State Conference and came away energized myself! This group of nurses is involved in so many ways. The speakers were extremely knowledgeable and provided some very thought-provoking situations and solutions to consider applying to our practices. As I see chapters struggling to identify topics designed to spur member interest, I encourage you to peek at the programs other chapters are offering. I am a firm believer in not reinventing the wheel. I am sure that Kellie Collins, President of Florida State, would be happy to share their program. You can contact her through the AAOHN member directory. Next month I will be able to share the California State conference highlights with you!

A few closing reminders… Elections are open from November 1 through December 1, 2013. It is your privilege to vote! The deadlines for award applications are approaching fast. Several end on November 1, with others ending December 1. Awards are offered through AAOHN and the Foundation. Please consider applying, as this is a way to promote the great work that is being done.

Thanks for all of your work and dedication to our profession and the workers we care for. Ours is a great profession!

Pam Carter

Pam Carter,
RN, COHN-S, FAAOHN
AAOHN President

^top

AAOHN
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In This Issue:

From the President's Desk

Save the Date: AAOHN 2014

From the AAOHN Foundation

Workplace Health & Safety Highlights

Contents: Workplace Health & Safety October

Earn CNE: AAOHN's Upcoming Webinars

Head to Toe Physical Assessment for OHNs

Save the Date: OAOHN 2013

AAOHN Welcomes New AAOHN Members

AAOHN Board of Directors 2013-2014

AAOHN Save the Date 2014

^top

From the AAOHN Foundation

Dear Fellow Members:

A significant role of the AAOHN Foundation involves funding research grants that focus on improving the health and safety of the nation's workforce. One recent success story in nursing research supported by the Foundation took place at Cook Children's Health Care System in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Dr. Joyce Hood

Joyce Hood, DrPH, MPH, RN, COHN-S, CPH, director of Occupational Health Services at Cook Children's, is a longstanding AAOHN member responsible for the well-being of 5,800 employees and 1,000 volunteers who perform the very rewarding and challenging task of caring for sick and injured children.

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Dr. Hood received a $3,000 new investigator grant from the Foundation to support a research effort that assessed the level of burnout in pediatric healthcare workers. This work was published in *Workplace Health and Safety* in August 2012. The research findings confirmed elevated burnout rates in a sample size of 206 subjects using two standardized tools: the Maslach Burnout Inventory and the Copenhagen Burnout Inventory. The study will be helpful to future investigations of worker burnout that could identify at-risk hospital units or labor categories and study interventions to reduce burnout. The grant money provided by the AAOHN Foundation helped launch a new stress hardiness program at Cook Children's Health Care System. The research abstract is available online at PubMed as a service of the National Center for Biotechnology Information, a division of the U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health.

Cook Children's, Ft. Worth, Texas

Dr. Hood offered this testimonial upon receipt of the Foundation grant: "Receiving the AAOHN Foundation – Medique New Investigator Researcher Grant in 2011 provided me with the funds to support my study of stress, burnout, and compassion fatigue in pediatric healthcare workers, which is a unique sub-set of the healthcare worker cohort in the country. The challenges they face each and every day are different from those in adult or extended care healthcare facilities. More valuable than the funds to support the study was the acknowledgement from the AAOHN Foundation that my study was important and they valued it enough to support and validate it."

The Foundation is excited to share positive outcomes from nursing research efforts that we support with grant money. Financial resources are also allocated by the Foundation to support continuing education and professional development of occupational health nurses. The Foundation needs help from AAOHN members to continue these worthwhile efforts. Please take a moment to make a tax-deductible donation to the AAOHN Foundation with the online giving option. Local and state chapters can also support the Foundation with a financial contribution. All contributions to the Foundation are put to good use by promoting and developing the profession of occupational health nursing through research grants and continuing education scholarships. Please help the Foundation achieve its mission of promoting the profession, contributing to the scientific body of knowledge related to worker safety and health, and fostering the professional growth of our members.

Please support the Foundation to help make a difference in our subspecialty of nursing and help promote nursing research.

Ward Evenson, MSN, RN
Trustee, AAOHN Foundation Board

^top

Highlights from
Workplace Health & Safety

In the September issue of *Workplace Health & Safety:*

Confidentiality of Worker Health Information
AAOHN
To read the article online, click here.

Personnel Response During an Internal Emergency: Unexpected Release of an Irritant Gas in a Hospital
Cem Oktay, MD, Ali Vefa Sayrac, MD, Soner Isik, MD, Neslihan Sayrac, MD, Engin Senay, MD, and Mehmet Emin Kavasoglu, MD
To read the article online, click here.

Factors Associated With Smoking Among Operating Engineers
Seung Hee Choi, PhD, Joanne M. Pohl, PhD, Jeffrey E. Terrell, MD, Richard W. Redman, PhD, and Sonia A. Duffy, PhD
To read the article online, click here.

Comparison of Caregiver Forces Required for Sliding a Patient up in Bed Using an Array of Slide Sheets
Lindsay M. Bartnik, OTD, OTR/L, and Martin S. Rice, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
To read the article online, click here.

Occupational Back Pain Among Rehabilitation Nurses in Saudi Arabia: The Influence of Knowledge and Awareness
Einas Al-Eisa, MSc, PhD, and Hani Al-Abbad, PT, BSc, MMSPhty
To read the article online, click here.

Self-Reported Health Status, Body Mass Index, and Healthy Lifestyle Behaviors: Differences Between Baby Boomer and Generation X Employees at a Southeastern University
Melondie R. Carter, DSN, RN, and Rebecca K. Kelly, PhD, RD
To read the article online, click here.

Preventing Noise-Induced Hearing Loss in Firefighters
Stephanie Chalupka, EdD, RN, PHCNS-BC, FAAOHN
To read the article online, click here.

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^top

WHS October Contents

AAOHN POSITION STATEMENT
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
Effects of a Brief Pilot Sexual Harassment Prevention Workshop on Employees' Knowledge
Cody Campbell, Alaina Kramer, Kendra Woolman, Emma Staecker, Joseph Visker, PhD, and Carol Cox, PhD
Ergonomics and Nursing in Hospital Environments
Bonnie Rogers, DrPH, COHN-S, LNCC, FAAN, Kathleen Buckheit, MPH, COHN-S/CM/SM, CCM, FAAOHN, and Judith Ostendorf, MPH, RN, COHN-S, CCM, FAAOHN
Exploring Workplace Violence Among Home Care Workers in a Consumer-Driven Home Health Care Program
Lindsay Nakaishi, BS, MPH, Helen Moss, BA, MA, Marc Weinstein, PhD, Nancy Perrin, PhD, Linda Rose, RN, PhD, FAAN, W. Kent Anger, PhD, Ginger C. Hanson, PhD, Mervyn Christian, MPH, and Nancy Glass, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN
The Effect of Cushioning Insoles on Back and Lower Extremity Pain in an Industrial Setting
John R. Jefferson, PT, PhD
CONTINUING EDUCATION
Evaluation of a Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Program at a Workplace Medical Clinic
Kara L. Andres, MS, Tracy A. Renn, RN, FNP-BC, David A. Gray, BS, Joanne M. Englund, BA, Geary W. Olsen, DVM, PhD, and Barbara K. Letourneau, RN
HEALTH UPDATES
Energy Drinks and Worker Health Risks
Kim Dennison, RN, MPH, BSN, COHN-S, COHC, Bonnie Rogers, DrPH, COHN-S, LNCC, FAAN, and Susan A. Randolph, MSN, RN, COHN-S, FAAOHN

^top

Earn CNE with AAOHN Through Webinars

Health Promotion Series

October 9: "Tobacco Cessation and Your Health Promotion Programming"

November 13: "World AIDS Day and Your Health Promotion Program"

Pharmacology Series

October 10: "Pharmacology Updates: Antineoplastic Agents"

November 7: "Antipsychotics and Other Mental Health Agents"

Head to Toe Physical Assessment for OHNs Series with Kerri Rupe

September 4; October 2, 8, 15, 22, 29; November 6, 12, 19, 26; December 3, 10

Positive Principles for Transforming Your Workplace Series with Jo Manion

October 1, November 5, December 3

Individual Webinars
FREE to active members October 23: "How Psychological First Aid Can Help Your Business's Emergency Response Team"

Register online for these and other educational offerings from the AAOHN Academy.

^top

Head to Toe Physical Assessment for Occupational and Environmental Health Nurses

Webinar series with **Kerri L. Rupe, ARNP, FNP-C, COHN-S, DNP, FAANP**

September 10, 18, 24; October 2, 8, 15, 22, 29; November 6, 12, 19, 26; December 3, 10 12-1 p.m. ET

Earn 14 content hours during 14 online sessions covering the physical assessment skills needed by occupational and environmental health nurses. **Past courses are available on demand for your convenience.** You may also purchase the individual webinars.

Webinar Series:
$320 for AAOHN Members
$640 for Non-members

Presented by:
AAOHN
&
The University of Iowa Heartland Center for Occupational Health & Safety

Learn more and register at aaohn.org.

American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Inc. - Provider Unit is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Inc. is additionally approved as a CNE provider by the California Board of Registered Nursing (#CEP9283).

^top

Save the Date: 2013 OAOHN Fall Conference

13.5 Credits Available for Entire Conference
Ohio Association of Occupational Health Nurses (OAOHN)

Get Your Registration in NOW!

Occupational Health, Safety, and Environmental Practice Issues
October 24th, 25th and 26th
Celina, Ohio

Click here for brochure and registration form.

*Application has been submitted for **4** hours on Thursday, **5.5** hours on Friday, and **4** hours on Saturday for continuing education contact hours for nurses through the OBN Approver Unit at the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing (OBN-011-93). Please contact Developmental Affairs at (513) 558-5311 regarding approval status. CM credits applied for through the Commission for Case Management.*

^top

AAOHN Welcomes New Members

AAOHN welcomes new members who joined in September 2013. Below are their names, listed with location, chapter, and region.

Mary Bell, BSN, RN, Dallas, TX, North Texas, Texas State, South Central/Southwest

Kathy Bowers, OHN, Blairsville, PA, Southwestern Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State, Northeast

Stacy Brake, Indiana State, North Central

Stasie Broughton, MBA, BSN, RN, Addison, TX, North Texas, Texas State, South Central/Southwest

Kim Casey, BSN, RN, Assumption, IL, St. Louis, Missouri, Illinois State, North Central

Leeann Darby, RN, Hidden Valley Lake, CA, California El Camino Real, California State, Mountain/Western

Martin Del Rio, MSN, RN, Las Piedras, Puerto Rico

Alice Dreger

Sondra Dverkop, Western Wisconsin, Wisconsin State, North Central

Mary Emde, South Central/Southwest

Roberta Forman, BSN, RN, Reed City, MI, Detroit, Michigan, Michigan State, North Central

Mary Godwin, North Carolina Triad, North Carolina State, Southeast

Lisa Humphrey, RN, Nevada City, CA, California State, Mountain/Western

Dawn Kish, RN, West Trenton, NJ, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey State, Northeast

Anneli Liebig, BSN, RN, CCM, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Florida State, Southeast

Jenny Markins, Indiana State, North Central

Anita Miller, Byron Center, MI, Michigan State, North Central

Russell Miller, RN, COHN-S, Houston, TX, Houston, Texas, Texas State, South Central/Southwest

Stacie Newlin, LPN, Crawfordsville, IN, Indiana State, North Central

Jacqueline Pegan, Washington State, Mountain/Western

Karen Ruggiero, Hudson Valley, New York, New York State, Northeast

Gretchen Schulz Andrews, Indiana State, North Central

Nicole Seibert, BSN, Green Bay, WI, Northeast Wisconsin, Wisconsin State, North Central

Katharine Sinnett, Central Massachusetts, Connecticut State, Northeast

Michele Standish, CPAN, ACNS, Lawrenceburg, IN, Southwestern Ohio, Ohio State, South Central/Southwest

^top

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