

# Progress Notes

## President's Message

Greetings—

I look forward to seeing our colleagues at Congress!

Juanakee Pearson-Ceol MS RN  
Central Ohio AORN President



## Legislative Corner

- Kay Ball, RN, MSA, CNOR, FAAN

“Advocacy” is a powerful term that we continually use when we talk about politics. According to Wikipedia, a political *advocacy* group is “an organized collection of people who seek to influence political directions and policy, without seeking election to public office.” That’s what periOperative nursing groups do when they advocate for safe and quality care for the surgical patient and for the advancement of the periOperative nursing profession. AORN’s Governmental Affairs Department along with the AORN National Legislative Committee works in conjunction with the State Legislative Coordinators to review and advance public policy initiatives through an active grassroots network. Both the state and federal levels of legislation are continually monitored for support or rejection.

Ohio’s Legislative Coordinators have been very active in advocating and examining Ohio legislation that is of interest to the periOperative nursing community. Our state legislative coordinators and their contact information are listed below.

If you ever have any questions about state legislation, please feel free to contact any of these knowledgeable periOperative nurse

Elouise Hardy	elouise.hardy@gmail.com	419.660.9805
Janet Janes	Janet_janes@owens.edu	419.385.7367
Don Katz	donkatz@aol.com	937.254.7157

representatives for more information.

Also our local chapter has a Legislative Committee that I have chaired for many years. If you have any questions about local legislative efforts, please feel free to contact me at [kayball@aol.com](mailto:kayball@aol.com). If I don’t have the answer, then I will research the issue until an answer is found.

There will be a Political Activism Convention sponsored by the Ohio Nurses Democratic Caucus (ONDC) on Saturday, April 26, 2008 from 1:00PM-4:15PM at the Ohio Democratic Party Headquarters, 340 East Fulton Street, Columbus, OH, 43214. Nurses and students are encouraged to attend. This event is free to ONDC members and \$10 for non-members who can pay at the door. Guest speakers include State Senator Sue Morano RN, Nurse Candidates Bill O’Neill and Jan Lanier. A panel discussion with these nurses will be held. Other topics presented include the Presidential race and strategies to organize nurses at the local level for the 2008 elections. Please RSVP to Paulette Sheeley at [pcs1@alltel.net](mailto:pcs1@alltel.net) and include your name, address, email, phone, and county.

ONDC is a caucus of the Ohio Democratic Party and membership is open to any licensed nurse or student. Additional information about ONDC can be found at [www.ohdemnurses.org](http://www.ohdemnurses.org).

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### Special Points of interest:

- Let your voice be heard. Vote for next year’s Officers. See Page 2
- Print out and share the monthly event. Earn CE’s with your co-workers and friends. Hang up the flyer and plan to attend the exciting **Saturday** meeting. See Page 3
- Read about a fellow member and next year’s President. See page 4 for all the details!

## AORN Slate of Officer Candidates Ballot - Nominating Committee

Its time to vote again for the Central Ohio AORN Officers for next year. Since the April meeting is falling on a Saturday right after Congress, many of the members will not be able to attend this important meeting and conduct the usual vote. This year, we are including the ballot in the newsletter for the members who will not be able to vote in person. So there are now 3 ways for you to vote: 1) Vote in person at the April meeting—Linda Carifa and an unbiased party will be collecting the paper votes at this meeting. They will tally these votes and report the totals to KeKe, this year’s President. 2) Vote by snail mail. Print out this page of the newsletter, mark your votes, and mail it to **Juanakee Pearson-Ceol, 2007 Parklawn Drive, Lewis Center, OH 43035**. Please make sure it is postmarked by Tuesday, April 8th, 2008. This is the usual date for the monthly meetings, and the deadline. 3) Vote by email. Everyone on the email mailing list also received the electronic version of this ballot. Please make your selections on this e-document and email it back to President KeKe at [juanakee.pearson-ceol@osumc.edu](mailto:juanakee.pearson-ceol@osumc.edu) by Tuesday April 8th, 2008. She will then total all votes, and contact the elected prior to the May meeting. Then come join us for the fun at the May meeting for the announcement of the winners.

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**2008 Official Ballot**

**PRESIDENT-ELECT:**

- 1. Kim Dillon

**VOTE:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

- 1. Linda Carifa

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

- 1. Cecilia Garrabrant

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**NEWSLETTER SECRETARY:**

- 1. Heather Nihiser

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

- 1. Kay Ball
- 2. MaryAnne Bentivegna
- 3. Joyce Cox
- 4. Jeanne LaFountain

**(Vote for 2)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

- 1. Mary Rogers, Chair
- 2. Joyce Cox
- 3. *OPEN* \_\_\_\_\_

**(One open spot – Write-ins welcome)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**OHIO COUNCIL:**

- 1. Linda Carifa
- 2. Jeanne LaFountain

**(Vote for 1)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE: Membership Chair is appointed. Kim Dillon is willing now to keep it in addition to running for Pres-Elect.*

*Please choose only ONE way to vote.*

*To vote by **snail mail**, please print this page and mark the vote line with an X for your choice. Understand several candidates are running unopposed.*

*To vote by **email** access the attached e-document, make the Vote line with an X and save. Then email back the saved version to KeKe’s email. Email is noted above and on the electronic version of this ballot.*

*To vote **in person** at the meeting. Take this Ballot, or print out the electronic version, make your choices, and turn in to Linda Carifa and the unbiased validator at the meeting. Linda will also have copies of the ballot at the meeting for those who do not bring copies*

*Good Luck to everyone running! You will all make great officers, and help to bring AORN another successful year of growth, education, and fun!.*

## April Event Flyer

# AORN of CENTRAL OHIO

*Presents*

## **Familiarization with the US Army Forward Surgical Team**

*By*

**Joan Ruttle-King LTC AN  
Ronald Weneck CPT AN**

**AORN Members, US Army Reserves**

**Saturday April 5, 2008**

**2:00 – 4:30 PM**

***UNIT TOUR INCLUDED***

**765 Taylor Station Rd.  
Blacklick, Oh. 43004**

**Refreshments provided by the US Army,  
Please RSVP @ [latonya.jones@usarec.army.mil](mailto:latonya.jones@usarec.army.mil)**

**Family and friends welcome, some images might be graphic for very young children.**

**Objective:**

**Familiarize nurses with the set up of a US Army forward Surgical Team unit**

*Contact hours for this continuing nursing education activity have been applied for through the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, Inc., an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.*

*Activities that are approved by AORN are recognized as continuing education for registered nurses. This recognition does not imply that AORN or the ANCC Commission on Accreditation approves or endorses any product included in the presentation*



Central Ohio Aorn  
c/o Heather Nihiser  
4569 Rexwood Drive  
Columbus, OH 43230

Email: [www.centralohioaorn.com](http://www.centralohioaorn.com)

## Caregivers Coming Together

## Member Spotlight

- Kim Dillon, RN

### **WHO** are you?

My name is **Michael KF Burnett**, RN, MSA, BSN.

**WHAT are you?** Professionally, I am a nurse, student, mentor, role model, leader, and change agent. First and foremost, I'm a PROUD nurse, whose gender happens to be male. I am currently enrolled in a Doctor of Health Sciences Program at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Personally, I function in many different roles including son, brother, grandson, uncle, nephew, cousin, friend, and partner.

**WHEN do you work as a nurse?** My role as a nurse extends beyond the confines of the hospital to encompass my duty to family, friends, and professional organizations. Being a nurse, I have assumed the informal role of family "doctor" to both friends and family. In addition to AORN, I maintain active membership in Sigma Theta Tau and American Assembly for Men in Nursing, where I serve on the national Board of Directors and the Education Committee. Wanting to give back to my community, I serve as a mentor for other male nurses and nursing students as they develop their professional career trajectory.

**WHY are you a nurse?** Unlike many men in nursing, I knew that I wanted to be a nurse when I was a teenager in high school. As many of my female colleagues have explained, it was a true "calling" for me as well. I was blessed to have an Anatomy and Physiology teacher in high school who promoted nursing as a viable

career option for men. I entered the nursing program at Wright State University directly out of high school and have never looked back. Nursing has been very good to me. I continue to promote nursing as a dynamic and viable career option for both males and females.

**WHERE do you work?** I am the OR Program Manager at Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH), where I supervise approximately 75 periOperative registered nurses and surgical technologists. Nationwide Children's Hospital is a 328-bed Level I trauma center with 14 surgical suites. Surgical specialties include cardiovascular/open heart (2 ORs), general pediatric surgery (including bariatrics and transplants), neurosurgery, urology, ophthalmology, gastroenterology, dental surgery, orthopedics, plastics, and otorhinolaryngology (ENT).

**HOW is AORN Congress important to you?** Professional growth and lifelong learning are very important to me. AORN Congress allows for great networking opportunities while learning about new technology, products, and research in the periOperative arena. Serving as a Chapter Delegate allows me to serve as a voice of the membership and supports my philosophy of giving back to the periOperative community. I always leave Congress feeling reinvigorated and extremely proud to be a periOperative nurse.

