

Region III Newsletter

Vol 1 ~ No 4 September 2009

Alabama~Florida~Georgia~Kentucky~Mississippi North Carolina~South Carolina~Tennessee~Puerto Rico

Current States & Chapters

Alabama: ALARN

Florida: FSARN

Georgia: GARN

Kentucky

Mississippi

North Carolina Chapters:

- GNCCARN
- Charlotte
- Central Carolinas

South Carolina: SCARN

Tennessee: Volunteer

Puerto Rico

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Region III Website:
www.fsarn.org/region3.html

ARN Website: www.rehabnurse.org

ARN Chapter Liaison:
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The summer is quickly winding down and fall will be here very soon. For those of you with children in school, you know just how quickly summer has come to a close. Every season, every year, many of us find ourselves asking, "Where has the time gone?" With two conferences coming up very soon, that statement could not be truer! It is hard to believe that Albuquerque is right around the corner! If you haven't registered and are planning on going...the time is now. You can register by a variety of ways by going to the ARN website at www.rehabnurse.org.

Other Updates from ARN... There has been further discussion regarding the proposed Board Restructure. Many, if not most of you, have heard from your chapter leaders regarding the details but here is what is being proposed and some of the rationale behind the changes.

- Instead of Regional Directors, there will be Directors, skill and leadership based instead of regional based. The intent is to ensure the skills and leadership needed to carry forth the strategic plan is there and not limited by region. It is believed that there is much untapped talent and that should not be complicated by regional limitations
- Increase the term to three years instead of two years without re-election and reduce the number of Directors by two
- Develop the Chapter Liaison Support Committee to provide additional support and information exchange between chapters. This committee is made up of chapter leaders with ARN Board member support
- Strengthen the mentoring and leadership development for future and potential leaders through course offerings as well using

the expertise of the Nomination Committee. The overall goal is to increase the leadership skills and afford more leadership opportunities to interested members. After careful consideration and discussions with past and present leaders of the organization, we feel as a board, it is the right time to move forward into the final stages of this proposal. This will obviously be discussed at the General Meeting at the ARN Conference.

From the Region...

Region III 2010 Conference. It will be held in Orlando, FL, hosted by FSARN. Those dates will be May 5-7, 2010 at the Regal Sun Resort. FSARN is still in need for volunteers for this conference. SCARN will handle registration and ALARN has agreed to help with the conference notebook and CDs for the handouts. They still need help with speakers, vendors, poster session and brochure. FSARN will supply the contact hours. The vendor letter is already up on the FSARN/Region III website.

If interested in volunteering, contact lisa@bbpconsulting.com. All chapter leaders will probably hear from Kevin Glennon and/or Sue Sharman in the near future regarding your interest in helping out. Remember, the proceeds from this conference help to fund scholarships for future Region III

conferences for your chapter. We will be discussing the conference at the Region III meeting in Albuquerque so plan to attend if at the ARN conference.

ALARN

Congratulations to Tarina Orr and her husband. She delivered a beautiful healthy son on June 23, 2009. Welcome to the world little Jeremiah!

FSARN

The NE District of FSARN (Jacksonville) has been a busy district!

- Linda Bertino, the Northeast District President for FSARN recently completed 40 hours of training as a **Parking Enforcement Specialist**. In Jacksonville, they are known as the "Parking Posse". The Military Affairs, Veterans, and Disabled Services Division offer the program and it is open to anyone in the community. Seventy percent of the \$250 fine is used to improve access for the disabled community. The other thirty percent goes towards the police and fireman's retirement fund. As Gator is her Service Dog, he also wears a badge as a volunteer auxiliary police dog. They are both working hard to educate people and when they have to – write a citation. You go Linda and Gator!!
- This district also held a Tea in conjunction with Certified Nurses Day on March 19th and was sponsored by their district and presented in one of Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital's new facilities.
- They also did Wheelchair Clinic community service project which was held on March 7th. They had good support from Wheelchairs Plus, a local provider, and the Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) which came with a supply of extra walkers, crutches and canes if needed. They serviced several chairs and scooters and everyone left with a clean device and fresh tennis balls. They had great support from their members, which made it a success and plan on doing it again once the weather gets cooler.

FSARN is now on Facebook! It is a work in progress!

Other Important Information...

Can any of us open a newspaper, go online, listen to the radio without hearing about healthcare reform? Unless you live under a rock, I suspect not. There is a tremendous amount of emotion out there as it relates to how this will affect us as healthcare professionals/providers and how this will also affect any of us as consumers of healthcare. Most of us would admit that we are in a broken healthcare system and have been for a long time...we know that. Unfortunately it will not come without frustration, pain, compromise and a host of angst in different forms. What we must do regardless of where we are on the fence...is to be informed and know that we are getting our information from reliable sources and from a variety of sources. We must not get caught up in listening to snippets of information and merely opinion...that puts us at a disadvantage in terms of informed decision making. Here are some websites that will give you information that should help you determine fact vs. fiction:

Health Reform: <http://healthreform.gov/>

AARP: <http://www.aarp.org>

The Office of the President-Elect: http://change.gov/agenda/health_care_agenda/

American Nurses Association: <http://nursingworld.org>

American Nurses Association and Healthcare Reform
<http://nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/HealthcareandPolicyIssues/HealthSystemReform.aspx>

American Association of College of Nurses—Nursing Policy Beat
<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Government/npb.htm>

This is certainly not an exhaustive list and any of these sites may very well lead you to somewhere else...the message is stay informed, stay current and listen to what makes sense!

Question...

What are you doing as a chapter to grow and retain your members? What strategies have you implemented that have created more value for your members? Please send to me and will put them in the next newsletter. Anything you might be doing could and will be of value to others!

Check out the website for more information regarding any of these conferences and general contact information for the region. Any changes in contact information or officers of your chapters, please let me know and will update the website.

Email with updates, information you want sent out to the region, etc. to lisa@bbpconsulting.com

Lisa Pervin RN, CRRN, PhD, Region III Director