



FSARN Newsletter

Florida State Association of Rehabilitation
Nurses

Volume 10, Issue 1

March 2002

The Chapter President Speaks

Sylvia Marshall-Nolt

Join the celebration!

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of our chapter! A quarter of a century ago! The year was 1977. On March 16th a group of 23 rehabilitation nurses with vision gathered in Ft Lauderdale to draw up an organizational charter and establish bylaws. In May the Articles of Incorporation were drafted. On October 25th of that year our first President, Renee Steele Rosomoff, received a congratulatory letter from ARN to the Florida Chapter for receiving their charter.

Did you know that the first Association of Rehabilitation Nurses President, Sue Novak, was one of our members?

Since that beginning, the Florida State Association of Rehabilitation Nurses has produced a rich history of contribution to the profession of rehabilitation nursing. Over the years our impact could be seen through the leadership of our members as they held positions at the District, State, Region, and National levels.

Our influence could be felt as members formally shared their expertise through written and oral presentations at all levels of the organization. Our dedication could be heard as we advocated across all practice settings for our patients/clients. We have much to celebrate!

Chapter Historian, Janet Osgood, will have the FSARN photo albums and history book available at our May conference for attendees to enjoy.

The Winds of Change

Beginning July 2002, the term of office for all elected chapter officers will be July 1 through June 30 of each calendar year. To be in compliance, FSARN will need to amend their bylaws.

Formal notice is hereby given to the members that a vote will be taken at the annual members' meeting on May 4, 2002 for this proposed change.

Marie Poole, Bylaws Chair, will address the specifics of the

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The Chapter President Speaks

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proposed amendments in her article in this newsletter.

In general, the proposed change will allow the term of office to be specified in the policy and procedure manual instead of in the bylaws. FSARN officers will continue to serve for two-year terms. Fiscal year will not change. District officers will remain on a January 1 through December 31 term.

To insure a smooth transition, the current FSARN Board officers will serve out their elected term plus six months. This will allow time for Nominating Chair, Barbara Martelli, and committee to compile a qualified slate of candidates for your consideration.

Those nominated will be presented to the FSARN Board in February 2003. Ballots will be mailed out in the spring 2003. Their term of office will be July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2005. The nominating committee is eager to hear from members who are interested in serving on the Board. Renee Steele Rosomoff, first FSARN President, issued this challenge to the membership in her farewell message at the end of her term "Please don't leave our future to chance—be there and be involved!" This challenge is as important for our

second 25 years as it was for our first 25. You can play a vital role in the evolution and continuing success of our Chapter.

FSARN remains committed to providing value to its members. The 2002 budget was submitted by Finance Chair, Fran Miller, and approved by the Board with this objective at its center. Members will receive three editions of the FSARN newsletter this year. Our newsletter keeps members informed of contacts and activities of the Chapter, actions taken at Board meetings, and articles of interest. We look forward to the creativity of our new Editor, Marie Povey.

"Please don't leave our future to chance—be there and be involved!" -Renee Steele Rosomoff, first FSARN President

Educational opportunities are the cornerstone of our scholarship program. This year's budget has \$6,400.00 cited for scholarships. Theresa Nachtsheim, Scholarship Chair, and committee identified the need for scholarship support for members seeking CRRN certification. This category has been added to the monies designated for scholarships.

In addition, profits from prior Region 3 conferences have been returned to the involved Chapters to support members' attendance at future Region 3 conferences. Our commitment to Region 3 is to use FSARN's portion of \$1,858.00 solely for this purpose. Refer to Theresa's article in this newsletter for additional details regarding the categories and criteria.

Upcoming activities, application forms, and a wealth of information can be found at the FSARN website, <http://www.geocities.com/bbpconsulting/FSARN.html>. This benefit for the members continues thanks to the expertise and diligence of our web mistress, Lisa Pervin.

The budget was also approved with a \$500.00 contribution earmarked for RNF at ARN. Research benefits all of us as rehabilitation nurses.

Each District President serves on the FSARN Board of Directors representing their District's members. It is their responsibility to bring members' questions and concerns to the Chapter and to provide all information from the Board meetings back to the district membership at large. So that all Districts are represented and information can be dissemi-

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The Chapter President Speaks

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nated equally, money is included in the budget for travel reimbursement for Presidents of those Districts with insufficient funds to cover this cost. Communication is vital to the success of our Districts.

Sue Dean-Baar, editor of the Rehabilitation Nursing journal has said, "Every nurse has an idea worth writing about" and encourages members to submit an entry to the writers' contest. As a first step, why not write an article for our FSARN newsletter? Some great ideas are happening at the District level. At the last Board meeting, one District President told how they were creative with the officer installation ceremony using flowers. Another reported how they had members share little known secrets of individual involvement in various community events as a way to get other members involved. Pull out your parchment and quill and share your ideas!

Sign up now for "Bridges To The Past". May 3-4, 2002. See our web site or contact me for details.

No celebration is complete without a gathering! On May 3 & 4, 2002 rehabilitation nurses from throughout the state of

Florida will gather for FSARN's annual educational conference. This year's theme Building the Future with Bridges from the Past will give our chapter the opportunity to celebrate our past, our present, and our future. FSARN's first 25 years of rich history provide an outstanding foundation for success in 2002 and beyond. I look forward to celebrating this exciting milestone with you.

Happy Silver Anniversary
FSARN!

2002 Conference Updates

Lisa Pervin & Fran Miller, 2002
Conference Chairs

"Building the Future with
Bridges from the Past"

May 3 and 4, 2002

Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport

The conference planning has been well under way for several months now and it promises to be another good year! Speakers are in place, vendors are getting signed up, and several fun events are being planned. We are fortunate to have Dr. Susan Blumenthal, U.S. Assistant Surgeon General, as our keynote speaker discussing the challenges and future of healthcare. Other

topics include stem cell research, stroke, pain management, end of life issues, upper extremity amputations, stress and burnout, spasticity management, team and communication, and much more.

We have two networking events planned for Thursday and Friday evening that will be relaxing and fun and help members get to know each other better.

Brochures will be out the first week in March. We have included a basic schedule and registration form on the website. That information can be found at www.bbpconsulting.com/FSARNUpdates.html.

If you would like a brochure, you can email (bbpconsulting@aol.com) Lisa Pervin for one or call (727-596-4738) to have one mailed. Any vendors needing information can email (FMMR@aol.com) Fran Miller or call (561-219-4427).

The early registration deadline is April 15 so mark your calendars and reserve your spot for the 25th Annual Educational FSARN Conference!



In Memory of September 11th

Valerie Armstrong CRRN, ARNP

I love New York City in the fall. Growing up in New York - the seasons gave you explosions of color to appreciate the foliage, crisp sunny days that led to cool nights and sudden sharp winds signifying that the year was approaching Winter and the snowy season. When I moved to Florida, the land of eternal spring and warm weather, I began to miss the change of seasons. My chance to go to NY City came as a nursing conference that was sponsored by the Nat'l Multiple Sclerosis Society. Women with multiple sclerosis met a nurse who changed her life. That woman realized that she had to share that nursing opportunity and foster the care that she received with other nursing professional. One nurse's impact on one person's life set up a cascade of events that led to a teaching seminar for nurses, and an opportunity to enhance my present career in multiple sclerosis care by attending a weekend seminar in New York City, the city I earned my Nursing degree in, the city that sparkles in the fall colors, the city that never sleeps.

Then September 11th changed the world. One person's beliefs set up a cascade of events that impacted billions of others. How could I fly up to New York

to attend a conference? A few weeks after stepping on a plane meant a new health risk? How could I – like my peers continue the daily activities of nursing? Our world had been shaken by its roots. We as a nation were in shock by the events of September 11th. My career in rehabilitation nursing helped me heal. We are skilled in promoting maximal independence, “getting on with life”. Another skill is setting functional outcome goals, “prioritizing the road to the light at the end of the tunnel”. I had to internalize these concepts to heal myself from the shock.

Even though attendance was lower than expected and one guest speaker didn't fly in to attend, the conference was a personal and profession success. The guest speaker was the woman who created the foundation that sponsored the conference based on one nurse's impact. The amount of bonding among the nurses attending the conference was a highlight of my career. And the fall colors were beautiful from the plane window and along the streets. And for the rehabilitation of New York City, most sidewalks were marked with the epitaph: “RIP WTC” Rest in peace, World Trade Center.





Internet Corner

Lisa Pervin
bbpconsulting@aol.com

FSARN Website

The website has been updated with new officers, emails, and information about the upcoming conferences. The website is being used more and more as there have been more emails from people asking for information regarding the chapter, the conference and district information. We have also posted CRRN Prep Courses that we know of and ask for more as you hear of them.

A reminder for everyone: Continuing Education Information and forms for districts as well as Scholarship Information and forms are both available on the site to be printed off as you need them.

Any new information for the site, please send on and I thank those that keep me on my toes!

www.bbpconsulting.com/FSARN.html

Other sites of interest

The National Institute of Health has a new LISTSERV for IRFPPS-L. Consider joining and accessing information on the new regs. At this time, they have over 600 members. You can find it at: <http://list.nih.gov/archives/irfpps-l.html>

HCFA, as most of you may know is now known as CMS and they have a new website. You can check it out at: <http://cms.hhs.gov/>

The National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) provides information on federally funded research, programs, and grants related to disability. They can be found at: <http://www.naric.com/>

If you are looking for information on assistive technology products and rehabilitation equipment, check out ABLEDATA, a NIDRR funded site for product information, advice and pricing. They can be found at: <http://www.abledata.com/>

Check out CyberNurse.com for some humor, nursing news, job market, etc. They can be found at <http://www.cybernurse.com/humor.html>

If you know of any great sites, please pass them on. Always looking for what's new and different. Send to the above email with 'FSARN' in the subject heading.

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FSARN Scholarships Available in 2002

FSARN has available scholarships for the following:

- ◆ Region III conference in March
- ◆ FSARN educational conference in May
- ◆ ARN National Conference
- ◆ CRRN test reimbursement
- ◆ FSARN educational scholarship

Requirements for the scholarship consideration include:

- ◆ completion of an application with the signature of the district president
- ◆ narrative essay with topics specific for each conference
- ◆ copy of ARN membership card
- ◆ applications must be completed and postmarked 30 days prior to the early registration for each conference
- ◆ notification of status of application will be given prior to the early registration date of any given conference

Scholarships are issued as reimbursements only and are nontransferable. Applications are available on the FSARN web site or by calling me at 321-841-4180.

See you at the conferences,
Theresa Nachtsheim
Chairperson Scholarship Committee
My e-mail address is TNachts@ORHS.org

BARN Conference Announced

Sue Brown

Healthcare Professionals: A Call to Action in 2002!

Friday, April 5th, 2002

Fort Lauderdale Marriott North
6650 N. Andrews Ave. Fort
Lauderdale, FL

7.2 Nursing Contact Hours
FSARN provider#

6.0 hours applied for CCM,
CRC, CDMS

Registration Info:

Carol Mangan 954-571-5005

Exhibitor Info:

Sherie Goldsmith 800-786-8214
x 104



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Career Opportunity

Director/ Manager of Rehabilitation

The Synergy Organization has just been retained by a 185-bed community, not-for-profit hospital centrally located in an attractive and convenient suburban location between Baltimore and Washington, D.C. A member of a two-hospital Health System with over 2,800 employees, the hospital's newly renovated inpatient Physical Rehabilitation Center is the only CARF-accredited program in the area. In this newly created position, they seek an experienced nursing professional to lead the expansion of their respected rehabilitation services.

This leader will have the opportunity to lead 45

FTE's, oversee day-to-day departmental operations and ensure the smooth functioning of the 28-bed acute comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation unit. This leader will work closely with the physicians and therapists to understand and meet their needs, increase patient satisfaction through patient centered activities, and develop programs and strategies for the expansion of the department. The successful individual will be a mentor for nursing management, an advocate for the nursing staff and will also be responsible for making sure appropriate standards of care are followed.

The successful candidate will possess proven leadership, communication and problem solving skills, be assertive and flexible and will work collaboratively in this mission-driven

environment. This opportunity will require prior management experience and a thorough understanding of issues related to Rehabilitation including Physical Therapy Occupational Therapy, and Speech Language Pathology. A RN is required and CRRN certification is preferred.

This exciting career opportunity offers a competitive salary, comprehensive benefits package and relocation assistance. For immediate consideration, please forward your resume and cover letter in confidence to:

Ross Reinhold
The Synergy Organization
3070 Bristol Pike,
Building #2, Suite 209
Bensalem, PA 19020
Phone: (215) 638-9777

Fax: (215) 638-2720
mail: Ross@synergyorg.com



From the Editor

Marie Povey

“Just write a little article,” says my husband.

To begin let me say “Thank you Fran Miller” for doing a great job keeping us informed by doing the newsletter for seven years! If you see Fran at the conference give her a congratulatory pat on the back.

As the TV ad says, “You’re mine!” Which means I need to hear from you. This is your forum to let other rehab professionals know what is going on “in your neck of the wood.” You might feel that you don’t do anything special, but each and every one of you has valuable insight regarding the role of a rehabilitation nurse.

Now is the time to let others know what you are doing and how you feel about your role. We also work as a team with other professionals and this gives us a chance to learn from and respect each other. So, included in this newsletter is an article on the role of a Speech Pathologist. If you feel there is someone, a group, or an organization that has an impact on the rehabilitation field let us know about it!

We all get a lot of material that demands our attention, so I plan to interject a little fun every once and awhile. If you have a humor-

ous story or joke let me know. Next newsletter, I hope to include pictures of your Board members (be forewarned Board members).

My email address:

marie@povey.org

My phone number: (727) 536-0189

Rehab and the Speech-Language Pathologist?

Elecia Stone MA, CCC-SLP of Blake Medical Center

The definition of a speech-language pathologist is: a professional who specializes in the identification and treatment of all types of speech, language, swallowing, and related disorders. A speech-language pathologist (SLP) may hold a master’s degree, should be certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and is licensed by the State of Florida. An SLP may work in the school system, private practice, hospital clinic, or other health and education setting.

Who should consult an SLP? Well, since an SLP can work with infants all the way to the geriatric population that can be a

very broad question. So starting with infants, the state has mandated that all infants born in a hospital will have their hearing screened. This has been put into place in order to identify those infants who may have a hearing disorder early, so treatment can be implemented as soon as possible. Moving into the children’s age population...a child with a simple articulation problem, stuttering, or a child with delays in communication should be referred to an SLP for evaluation and possible treatment. Children with autistic, chromosomal defects and many other diagnoses may also be referred. As human beings age, and even in childhood, other medical problems occur, resulting in the need for a SLP. These may include stroke, Parkinson’s disease, Muscular Sclerosis, traumatic brain injury, brain tumors, hydrocephalus, cleft lip/palate, hearing loss, and many others.

Treatment by an SLP for the patient with a stroke, brain injury, Parkinson’s, as well as other conditions is an invaluable part of their rehabilitation process. Without this, a patient may never reach their full rehab potential. The SLP is an important member of the rehab team.

An SLP will initially obtain information about the patient/

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Proposed Bylaw Changes

Marie Poole

The following are the proposed changes to the By-laws of FSARN. Voting on the changes will take place at the general meeting held during the May 2002 conference.

Article VI. Officers

Section 2

Election and Term of Office.

The elective officers shall be elected by the membership. No member may hold simultaneously more than one of the elective officers of the chapter. The nominating committee shall prepare and submit to the membership QUALIFIED nominations for each of the

elective offices of this chapter. The elective officers shall be elected by MAIL ballot. The term of office SHALL BE IN COMPLIANCE OF ARN BYLAWS.

Article VIII. Chapter Board of Directors Composition and Tenure.

The chapter Board of Directors shall be comprised of the president, immediate past president, president-elect, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, and district presidents who shall automatically be directors of the Chapter. The terms of office SHALL BE IN COMPLIANCE OF ARN BYLAWS.

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client to determine an appropriate evaluation protocol. Then a thorough communication evaluation should be completed, using many different avenues. Following this, and depending on the results of the evaluation, a treatment plan will be established.

In summary, it is vitally important that an SLP be introduced in a timely manner, for the best outcome of speech-language services. It should be noted that parent/family involvement in treatment objectives would greatly benefit the patient/client. Please contact the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association with any question. For an SLP in your area, call 1-800-498-2070 or <http://professional.asha.org>.

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PCARN Updates Installation of Officers Ceremony

Karen E. Dimick

They say that necessity is the mother of invention. And so it was that the ‘mothers’ of PCARN found it necessary to reinvent the installation of officers ceremony.

You’ve probably witnessed the traditional FSARN installation of officers ceremony where the outgoing president uses a white candle to light color-coordinated candles for each officer as they are given a ‘charge’ for their office. Each candle is a different color to signify this aspect of the Board of Directors position.



Two things inspired us to make the change in the ceremony this year. One issue was the fact that we were finding it increasingly difficult to find candles in the original colors used in the FSARN installation ceremony. The other issue was that the restaurant where we were having our installation this year wouldn’t allow us to have lighted candles.

So we used colored artificial flowers instead:

Color	Board Position	Symbolizing
White	Outgoing President	Organizational Commitment
Red	Directors at Large	Life blood; filling in vacancies
Green	Treasurer	Growth, funds
Pink	Recording Secretary	Value of the records
Lavender	Corresponding Sec’y	Stimulus/arousal of notices
Purple	President	Royalty/leadership
Blue	President-Elect	Calm/smooth influence

We were pleasantly surprised to find quite a variety of flowers in all of those colors at a local craft store. We chose silk roses and put them in a crystal vase for our table at the restaurant where we have our meetings. The outgoing president pulled the appropriate flower out of the bouquet and handed it to the incoming Board member and used the wording in the original FSARN Installation of Officers Ceremony.

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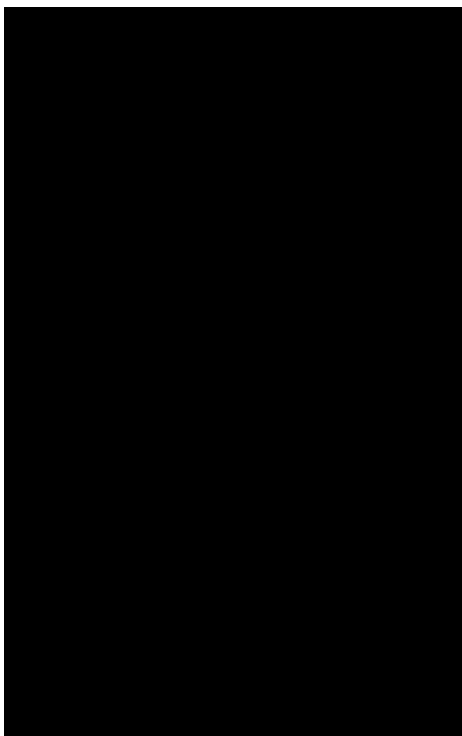
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The ARN Standards of Professional Performance address Quality of Care, Performance Appraisal, Education, Collegiality, Ethics, Collaboration, Research and Resource Utilization. So after the applause and picture taking, the Outgoing President then added the following to the end of the Ceremony, "As the Board and I return to our seats, we will place our flowers back into the common vase. Just as each flower adds a special hue to the larger bouquet, each member of the Board brings their own personality and talents to their position as they collaborate to further the educa-

tion of the rehabilitation community in the PCARN District."

We now bring this flower vase to our dinner meetings as a centerpiece and a reminder of our commitment to the District and to Standards of Practice of Rehabilitation Nursing.

On a humorous note, during our recent ceremony, as the Outgoing President asked those assembled to stand and applaud the incoming officers, two nearby tables of restaurant patrons rose simultaneously with the PCARN district and applauded. They asked to be invited to the next installation in 2004!



PCARN News

Karen Dimick

At our January meeting we installed the 2002-2004 Board of Directors:

President
Karen Dimick

President-Elect
Jill Luhrsen

Recording Secretary
Pam Dunn (Past-President)

Corresponding Secretary
Fran Miller

We have quarterly meetings themed "Dinner and a CEU" at the Lake Worth Olive Garden. We charge members \$10 for both; non-members \$15.

The District subsidizes the difference. We try to have nurse presenters and plenty of time for networking. Our next meeting is April 11th at 5:30 where 2 contact hours will be awarded to comply with the "Medical Errors" CEU now required by Florida law. Reservations can be made by calling Jill Luhrsen at 561-638-1653.

Florida State Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
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Florida State Association of Rehabilitation Nurses Newsletter Advertising

The FSARN Newsletter is currently published three times yearly: February, June, and October. It is distributed to members and rehabilitation professionals throughout the state. The newsletter and association is a not-for-profit organization with the purpose of providing educational information, professional events, updates, and resource information. Deadline for submitting articles, professional information, and advertisements is the last day of January, May, and September.

RATES: (Camera Ready or Computer Generated Advertisement Only)
Business Card Size (2X3) - \$25.00/issue Quarter Page (4X5) - \$60.00/issue

For more information, please contact: Marie Povey, FSARN Newsletter Editor
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Phone: (727) 536-0189 E-Mail: marie@povey.org

FSARN Board Meetings are held at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport, between 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM on:
Saturday, February 2, 2002, Saturday, September 21, 2002, and Friday, December 6, 2002

During the remainder of the year, Board members will maintain a process of disseminating new information and decision-making through telecommunication.

www.bbpconsulting.com/FSARN.html