



FSARN Newsletter

Florida State Association of Rehabilitation
Nurses

Volume 11, Issue 1

March 2003

The Chapter President Speaks

*Sylvia Marshall-Nolt, MBA, RN, RN-C,
CRRN*

In the aftermath of the Columbia space shuttle tragedy, we are reminded that those astronauts were heroes. Extraordinary people charged with extraordinary tasks. As rehabilitation nurses and members of the global health care community, we were doubly affected by knowing that two of those lost were also physicians. While we mourn the loss of seven astronauts, we are inspired by the lives they led in their quest for knowledge and in their courage to venture into the unknown. Tools of the trade for an astronaut's quest for knowledge and courage to venture into the unknown. Most of us can recall a patient who has crossed our paths', a hero carrying along those same "tools of the trade." Someone who has suffered a traumatic illness or injury but then inspired us by their thirst for knowledge about their disability and their courage and ability to go forward in life into their own "unknown." We are blessed as rehabilitation nurses to have chosen this profession where we can play a role in the lives of heroes!

As we start this New Year we welcome new faces to the FSARN Board of Directors. Each district has a new President as representative to the Board. July 1st will see another change in faces on the Board, as the new Executive Officers will start their 2-year term. By the time you receive this newsletter, the ballots will have been returned. Installation of the new officers will take place at the annual members' meeting during our educational conference in May. Thank you to Barbara Martelli, Chair, and the nominating committee who have done a wonderful job of preparing a slate of very qualified candidates for our consideration.

Several items to note occurred at our February 1st Board meeting. FSARN is very financially sound. Ina Fletcher, Treasurer, does an outstanding job keeping FSARN in compliance with ARN, state, and federal regulations. She has researched options, and with Board approval, has invested some of our treasury in certificates of deposit where we can earn interest. A full financial report will be given to the membership at our annual meeting. The financial books are always open to the members.

Continued on page 2

2002 FSARN Board of Directors

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The Chapter President Speaks

Continued from page 1

The 2003 operating budget was approved with \$9,000 dedicated for scholarships! Theresa Nachtsheim, Chair, and the scholarship committee have policy and procedures in place and are eager to review applications in support of members' attendance at FSARN/ARN conferences, members' college education, and members' reimbursement for passing the CRRN test. Go to the FSARN website for applications, qualifications, and deadlines. Our next Board meeting will be Saturday, September 13th at the Hyatt

OIA. Our final Board meeting for 2003 will be Friday, December 5th. For our final meeting, we will be at the Marriott Airport in Orlando. This will give Board members the opportunity to check out the site of our future educational conferences to be held May 13 & 14, 2004 and May 12 & 13, 2005.

The Southwest and Suncoast Districts have been very busy over the past months. They will co-host our annual educational conference May 9th and 10th at the Hyatt Orlando International Airport. *"Rehabilitation Restores the Future...in Body, Mind, and*

Spirit" will give members the opportunity to learn, network, and have fun. Look for your brochure to arrive in the mail soon! You can also go to the FSARN website for details.

Don't forget that now ARN has now made it easier than ever to pay your annual dues. Members can renew their ARN membership for only \$8.33 per month through automatic deductions. Chapter dues would be deducted twice yearly. Call ARN at 800-229-7530 for details.

Hope to see you in Orlando when we come together for our annual educational conference in

DMR: Committed to the highest level of patient care.

DMR has recently expanded its staff of Rehab Specialist with the addition of Massimo D'Ambrosio MPT, MBA. Working closely with Katy Schultz, DPT, ATC, he has the support of all of DMR's resources to better care for our growing client base. His addition as a Rehab Specialist means we can bring you an unprecedented level of service with the same care, personal reliability and personal attention you've come to expect from the region's

fastest growing medical & rehab equipment & supplies company. Massimo *also speaks Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and French*. Katy and the entire DMR team are here to serve.

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FSARN Educational Conference May 9 - 10, 2003 Rehabilitation Restores the Future...in Body, Mind & Spirit

The Southwest and Suncoast Districts have been collaborating efforts during the past year, working on the educational conference. The overall goal has been to provide an educational program of interest to our members as well as to all nurses with an interest in rehabilitation. At the same time, making the conference a pleasant experience has been prominent in our discussions. Within the constraints of time and space provided, we hope to meet our goals for the conference as well as provide the continuing education that is important to you.

With the Friday, Saturday schedule of the conference, the vendors will only be there one day, on Friday. As introduced last year, we will be having a reception in the vendor area on Thursday evening from 7 to 9 PM. This not only gives you an

opportunity for early registration but provides a time to meet with the vendors without the daytime pressures of calls to the office, checking voice mail, and everything else you need to accomplish during the breaks. It will also allow for more lengthy discussion of how their services and products could serve the needs of your patients.

The vendors are very important to our conference and their contributions enable us to enlarge the scope of the educational presentation and make it the best we can provide.

Please take advantage of this extra time to visit with them and also thank them for their faithful support. The committee has been discussing ways to make this time with the vendors enjoyable as well as profitable for all who attend. You may or may

not find them ready to burst into song with their enthusiasm but the message remains the same, "Welcome!"

Although continuing education is the main reason for attending, the opportunity to see friends and acquaintances from years past is an almost equal priority. New faces each year add to our experience and the sharing of ideas within our area of special interest enriches our educational experience.

We hope you have the annual conference on your agenda for this year and that we will see you in Orlando in May.

Carol Shepard, RN, CRRN,
CCM, CDMS

Southwest District FSARN
Co-Chair 2003 Educational
Conference

The University of Miami Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation Center is seeking an experienced Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist to work as a member of its multidisciplinary team in a community hospital in Miami Beach, Florida.

The successful candidate will function as Vocational Counselor/Case Manager and should possess the following qualifications:

- Master's Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling or related field (preferred)
- Certification required in one of the following: Certified Case Manager (CCM), Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), or Certified Disability Management Specialist (CDMS)
- Current State of Florida "Qualified Rehabilitation Provider" certification
- 3-5 years Rehabilitation Counseling/Case Management experience in the private sector
- Effective Individual and Group Vocational Counseling skills
- Effective verbal and written communications skills
- Rehabilitation or health care marketing experience preferred
- In depth and current knowledge of Florida Workers' Compensation system and other disability management programs
- Ability to work independently within a multidisciplinary team structure
- Bi-lingual, English-Spanish preferred



If you or someone you know is interested in working in our dynamic, world-class, University of Miami Pain Center, please forward your resume via E-mail to: Programs Director, Renee Steele Rosomoff, MBA, RN, CRRN, CRC, CDMS at rrsomof@med.miami.edu or by fax to: 305-534-3974.





FNA Legislative News

Barbara Lumpkin, RN, FNA Staff, govt@floridanurse.org

HB 511 Puerto Rico RN Endorsement Bill by Representative John Quinones (R) from Kissimmee. This bill would require the Board of Nursing to license by endorsement any nurse with an active license to practice in Puerto Rico.

Last year we authorized licensure by endorsement any nurse licensed in any U.S. territory or jurisdiction so long as the nurse has a current and unrestricted license in a state or territory of the U.S. and if the nurse has actively practiced two of the last three years. This provision has a

sunset date of 2004 to cause legislators and the Board of Nursing to evaluate the impact of this provision. Earlier I reported that Representative Quinones Temporarily Passed (TP) HB 511 to allow more time to improve his proposal to make it more acceptable. Through consultation with Dr. Dan Coble, Executive Director of the Board of Nursing (BON), I learned that Puerto Rican Nurses who received their education in Puerto Rico do meet the curriculum and clinical education requirements to qualify them to take the NCLEX Exam. The Nursing Board of Puerto Rico does not use NCLEX because they want their nurses to practice in Puerto Rico. We are now working with Representative Quinones to amend his bill to provide nurses licensed in Puerto Rico who do not meet the current practice requirement with the opportunity to take a course of instruction to update their skills and prepare them to take and pass the NCLEX Examination. The Bill might also provide grant funding for Community Colleges to offer such a course. We'll keep you informed on this effort.

SB 698 Geriatric Nurse Bill. The Department of Health has raised some concerns regarding this bill, especially the practice component. Since this is a pilot project and no person can complete the course before the legislature meets in 2004, representatives of the MQA Division of the Department of Health will continue to work with the Board of Nursing, FNA, the Florida Association of Homes for the Aging, and the Florida Health Care Association to improve this bill by addressing the concerns of all the parties. There is no sponsor of the bill in the House so for it to be passed this year the Senate Bill will have to be amended onto a House Bill that is on the subject of Nursing or Nursing Homes. We will watch for such an amendment.

HB 341 and SB 1736: ARNP Prescribing Bill. Please continue to ask your friends, nursing colleagues, supportive physicians and patients to write to the eight members of the subcommittee on Health Standards. It's very important for these committee members to receive messages from their constituents asking for their support of HB 341.

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Internet Corner

Lisa Pervin RN, CRRN, Ph.D, bbpconsulting@aol.com

The hottest topic these days is the nursing shortage. These websites have the latest information about the shortage in Florida. Check them out.

The Nursing Shortage Consortium of South Florida (NSCSF). This is a relatively new site addressing this issue sponsored by several health care organizations in the South Florida area: www.nursingshortage.org/

The Florida Nurses Association (FNA). Not only will you find information about the shortage but also newsletters and other valuable information for today's nurse: www.floridanurse.org/

The Florida Hospital Association (FHA). They have posted several articles on this topic, most are in PDF format. You need Acrobat Reader (free from www.adobe.com) to read these: www.fha.org

Did you know that JCAHO has an E-mail list that you can subscribe to for latest information and release of new standards? You will get alerts via E-mail when you sign up: www.jcaho.org/

The Nursing Network has information regarding clinical information, supplies and books, humor and plenty of links to get you to other places. www.nursingnetwork.com/

Talking about viruses-a subject we love to hate. Most of us get E-mails declaring the latest bug to infect and destroy our systems. A good place to check them out is Hoaxbusters, found at: hoaxbusters.ciac.org/

Other sites to try are: McAfee's site at: vil.mcafee.com/hoax.asp and Symantic's site at: www.symantec.com/avcenter/hoax.html

If you are browsing around and find a good site, please E-mail it to me, with FSARN as the subject heading and we'll get them posted here and on the website. And don't forget to visit and bookmark FSARN's website, www.bbpconsulting.com/FSARN.html

From the Editor

*Marie Povey
RN, BSN, CRRN, CCM*

Just a brief note to state that this newsletter is for you. If you want an article in the newsletter, please send it to me by May.

Interested in joining us?
Contact our Membership Chairperson, Robin Walker, whose E-mail is: rwkr1955@aol.com

I wanted to pay tribute to those who are willing to fight and die for our ability to have this newsletter, freedom of enjoying our individual cultures, our freedom and diversity of religion, and our freedom of speech.

HEALTHSOUTH Hospitals

For information on exciting career opportunities in Florida with a HEALTHSOUTH Rehabilitation Hospital, contact your nearest hospital location below:

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850-914-8600

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727-586-2999

HEALTHSOUTH Sea Pines
Melbourne, Florida 32901
904-984-4600

HEALTHSOUTH Treasure Coast
Vero Beach, Florida 32960
561-563-4002

HEALTHSOUTH Sarasota
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HEALTHSOUTH Nursing... United in making a Difference



FNA Legislative News

Continued from page 4

Remember the possible yes votes are Representative Ray Sansom from Okaloosa County, Representative Shelley Vana from West Palm Beach, and Representative Gus Bilirakis from Northwest Pinellas County and up to Tarpon springs area.

SB 1736, the Companion to HB 341 filed by Senator Gwen Margolis has many hurdles to get to a full and fair hearing in the Senate. It was referred to six committees. This is usually a fatal blow. I have asked all our LDCs and members in Jacksonville to write to Senate President Jim King asking him to reconsider his referrals on SB 1736. Senator King's E-mail address is king.james.web@flsenate.gov. I hope he receives many very courteous messages asking him to give SB 1736 a fair chance.

HB 923 DEA Numbers for ARNP and PAs Bill sponsored by Representative Heather Fiorentino from Pasco County and SB 1738, sponsored by Senator Mike Fasano, also from Pasco County. These are the two bills filed to address the age old problem that prescriptions written by ARNPs are not labeled with the name of the ARNP but with the physician who collaborates with the Nurse Practitioner. Senator Fasano has heard from pharmacists that they

are very supportive of trying to address this problem because pharmacists are in a "Catch 22" situation. They know that should label prescriptions with the name of the actual prescriber but "company policy and billing procedures" require that they use the prescriber with a DEA number. The insurers and retail drug chains are very upset about the bills mentioned, but all parties agree that the issue needs to be addressed. Senator Fasano's pharmacist friend suggests that he amend his bill to direct the Attorney General to inform the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration that they should issue ARNPs and PAs in Florida DEA Numbers.

The bill will not authorize ARNP or PAs to prescribe controlled substances but it will ask the DEA to give us numbers so ARNP Prescriptions and PA prescriptions will be properly labeled. We'll keep you informed about the progress of this amended proposal. Representative Fiorentino will also amend her bill to conform to the Senate bill.

HB 991 by Representative Murman and **SB 2258** by Senator Saunders, **Nursing Shortage Bills**. These authorize RNs in the Florida State Retirement System to work eight years

after going into DROP rather than the current maximum of five years. This bill also creates a grant fund of one million dollars to award to Hospitals that want to implement innovative strategies to retain well-qualified Registered Nurses on their staff. We would hope many hospitals would seek financial assistance to pursue Magnet Status. The House Bill has several committee references with the first being State Administration Committee. This committee list is attached to this message. I met with Representative Mack this week and asked him to schedule HB 991 for a hearing. Please write Representative Mack asking him to put the bill on a meeting agenda and write members of the committee asking them to support this good bill.

HB 263, Nurse Psychotherapist Bill by Representative Dennis Ross. The legislators need to hear that indeed ARNPs do have National Certification by Certifying Bodies that are National and Accredited. The Bill Passed the House and is now in the Senate. Contact your Senate Representative to vote on passing this legislation.

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SIG Contact Information

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FNA Legislative News

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Insurance Reform

This is an issue I have not mentioned before. The Committee is considering insurance reform to try to diminish the incidents of fraudulent claims, especially in Person Injury Claims on your automobile insurance plans. There is so much fraud in this area thanks to "ambulance chasers" who review accident reports and encourage people to file bogus claims for faked injuries. There is no doubt that this fraud costs all drivers lots of money for auto insurance. Once again the bill to address the problem of fraud includes several provisions that state insurance companies only have to pay claims for services provided by a physician. We are working with PAs and Physical Therapists to get these provisions amended to read that only claims for services provided by a Florida Licensed Health Care Provider will have to be paid. I

don't have time today to develop the list of Insurance Committee members to give you but the Directory we provided you has that information, and we will also post it on Capitol Wiz. Please write to members of the House Insurance Committee about this issue. Refer to **PCB IN 0301** when you write about this issue. This is a committee bill. I ask all ARNPs to take note of this issue and write to members of the House Insurance Committee. Those of you who work with physicians who provide services should also ask the physicians to write about this issue. Many medical practices would be impacted if this provision does not get fixed.

Please contact Barbara Lumpkin, RN, FNA Staff via E-mail at govt@floridanurse.org with any questions or concerns.

Web sites for on-going Florida Nurse Association information are: www.floridanurse.org and www.fnanews.org



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District Information

North Central District

(Ocala, Gainesville & Leesburg),
Carol Markland RN, CRRN,
CCM President. (352) 330-
2191, E-mail: cmcrrn@aol.com

We meet 4 times a year, on the second Thursday of January, March, September, and November. We meet from 5:30-7:30 PM at Ruby Tuesday's on S.R. 200, just east of I-75 in Ocala. After dinner & a short business meeting, we have an educational speaker, which provides our members with at least 4 contact hours per year. Check our website for information: www.gizwebs.com/ncfarn. The site, maintained by our Jean Brown, is also available as a link from the FSARN website. We want to encourage our members to attend the FSARN Educational Conference in May.

Carol Markland, RN Case
Manager or Jean Brown, RN
Case Manager

Barbara Cogley, RN (Treasurer)
Case Manager

Constance Boddice, RN (Re-
cording Secretary) Staff Nurse

Pat Radloff, RN (Educational
Chairman) Staff Nurse/Geron-
tology

Dawn Ferrari, RN Educator/
Gerontology/Staff Nurse

Janet Mayers, RN Subacute Care
Sheila Ferguson, RN Admission/
Liason

Colleen Balestrieri, RN Case
Manager

Mary Anne Wilhelm, RN
Administration/Management

Maureen Masters, RN Case
Manager

West Coast District

The Board members of the West
Coast District are:

President: Lisa Pervin, RN,
CRRN, Ph.D.

Past President: Bonnie Wells,
RN, MPH

Secretary: Patricia B. Fredette,
BS, RN, CRRN

Treasurer: Phyllis Tondelli, RN,
CRRN

The membership includes nurses from all areas of rehabilitation. Many of our members work in acute rehabilitation, sub-acute, skilled nursing, home health, and managed care/insurance environments. There are staff nurses, administrators, case managers, educators, entrepreneurs, etc. We welcome the

For info on our group, contact:

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The University of Miami Comprehensive Pain and Rehabilitation Center is seeking a qualified Registered Nurse to work as a member of its multidisciplinary team in a community hospital in Miami Beach, Florida. The successful candidate will assume the role of Patient Care Coordinator, working with the Medical Director and should possess the following qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree (or higher) in Nursing
- Certification required in any one of the following: Certified Case Manager (CCM), Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), Certified Disability Management Specialist (CDMS), or Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse (CRRN)
- Current State of Florida Nursing License
- At least 5 years rehabilitation/case management experience in the private sector, preferably experience in the field.
- Leadership ability
- Ability to work independently within a multidisciplinary team structure
- In depth and current knowledge of Florida Workers' Compensation system and other insurance systems.
- Strong medical and vocational knowledge
- Bi-lingual, English-Spanish preferred

If you or someone you know is interested in working in our dynamic, world-class, University of Miami Pain Center, please forward your resume via E-mail to: rrosomof@med.miami.edu or by fax to: 305-534-3974, attn: Renee Steele-Rosomoff, RN, MBA, CRC, CDMS, CRRN, Programs Director.





District Information

Continued from page 8

membership of any nurse with an interest in rehabilitation ... the whole continuum.

Meeting Time & Place:

We meet quarterly (January, April, July, and October), on the second Monday of the month, at United Healthcare in Tampa.

9009 Corporate Lake Dr., Suite 200

Tampa, FL 33634

The agenda is typically as follows: We gather at 5:30 PM for networking and dinner, with the business meeting following at 6:00 PM. The educational program starts at 6:30 PM, which offers one (1) contact hour of education.

Our next meeting will be April 14, 2003. The educational topic will be an update on HIV (1 CE)

Cost: Free To FSARN and WCD Members!

Non-members: \$10 for 1 CE and \$15 for 2 CEs. Dinner is included

For more information, see our website: www.bbpconsulting.com//WCDFSARN.html

FSARN Advisory Board

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 Fax (562) 439-3025

FSARN Continuing Education

To receive a FSARN Continuing Education packet or if you have a question, contact Karyn Scully at: 11075 NW 37th Street, Coral Springs, FL 33065, (954) 752-8541

Or visit the FSARN Website at: www.bbpconsulting.com/FSARN.html

Florida State Association of Rehabilitation Nurses Provider Number is: FBN-3107

The Provider Number must be on your advertisements of offerings if awarding continuing education hours. The Provider Number can only be used with the FSARN Board approval.

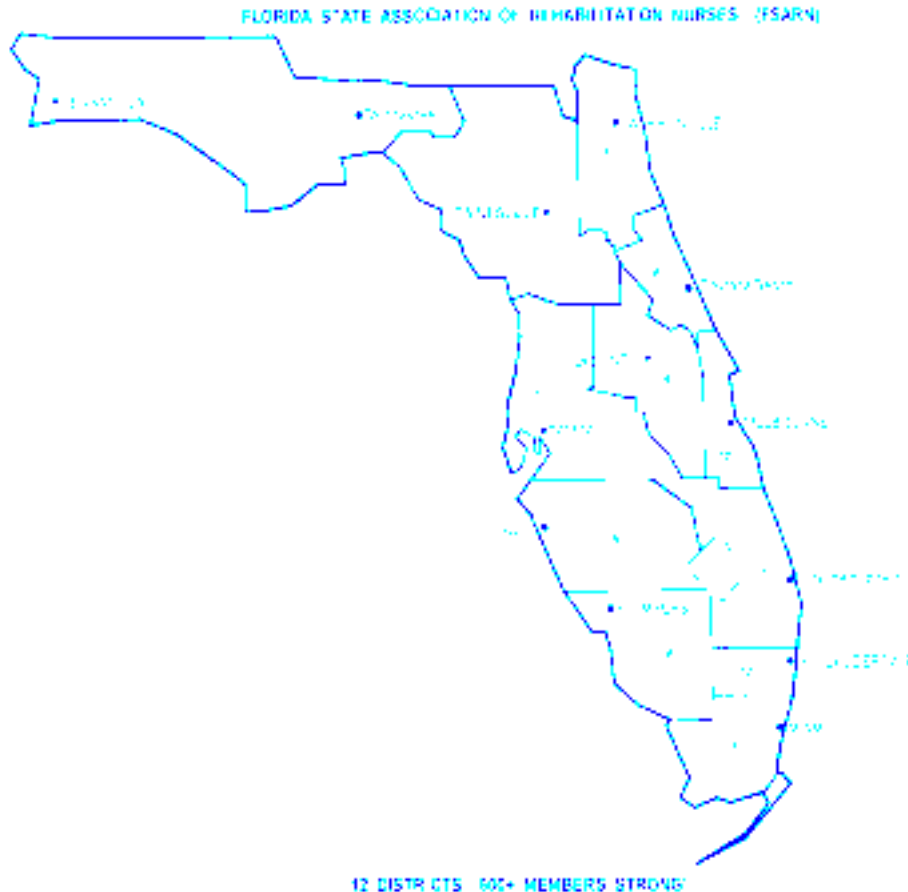
The Florida State Board of Nursing has approved FSARN as a provider for both traditional and nontraditional programming. The Board stresses that all referenced bibliography must have a currency period of five (5) years unless it is a classic.



FSARN District Presidents

FSARN is divided into 12 districts covering all corners of the state. Each district operates under the guidance and bylaws of FSARN. Listed below are the districts and the president of each district.

1. Tallahassee District:	Patsy Hammitt	(850) 539-8286	phammitt@msn.com
2. North Central District:	Carol Markland	(352) 330-219	cmcrn@aol.com
3. West Coast District:	Lisa Pervin	(727) 596-4738	bbpconsulting@aol.com
4. Central District:	Cathy Geibel	(407) 876-8196	cathgeib@aol.com
5. Sun Coast District:	Marie Poole	(941) 925-2021	mlspoole@aol.com
6. Southwest District:	Carol Shepard	(239) 694-5631	shepardcm@aol.com
7. Dade District:	Jane Dacks	(305) 386-1745	madsj@aol.com
8. Northeast District:	Linda Bertino	(904) 288-0906	rainbeaus@.rn.com
9. Volusia/Flagler District:	Darlene Fatula	(386) 345-3156	dsf4505@aol.com
10. Space Coast District:	Antoinetta Parato	(407) 952-5071	
11. Palm Coast District:	Jill Luhrson	(561) 495-6769	ablincorporated@earthlink.net
12. Broward District:	Karen Scully	(954) 242-0515	karyn1123@aol.com





Announcing the 13th Annual
Rehabilitation Nursing Writers' Contest



It's that time of year again—when we remind you and your chapter members that *every nurse has a story to tell!*

The *Rehabilitation Nursing* 2003 Writers' Contest affords a golden opportunity to break into the pages of ARN's prestigious, peer-reviewed journal—even for first-time writers. Winners are published in the "Perspectives" column, receive an award certificate, and are announced at each year's conference. Don't miss this chance to shine, to build your résumé and writing skills, and to make your chapter proud!

The entry's theme should be a professional experience with strong human interest. The journal's editorial team emphasizes the need for *inspiring* contest entries. A polished style is not necessary; the editors will help winners with grammar, syntax, and other finishing touches before publication. A good story to share with other nurses is the real objective, and you and your fellow members have those stories.

To see **complete contest guidelines**, open your March/April copy of *Rehabilitation Nursing* and follow the easy steps to creating your entry. If you have further questions, go to info@rehabnurse.org. Your story is unique, and we look forward to reading it: Start planning now.

Entries must be e-mailed or postmarked by July 15, 2003.



Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
4700 W. Lake Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025-1485
www.rehabnurse.org

Florida State Association of Rehabilitation Nurses Newsletter Advertising

The FSARN Newsletter is currently published three times yearly: March, 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. The closing date for submitting articles, advertisements, and other professional information is the last day of February, May, and September.

Rates: Computer Generated (PageMaker {preferred} or MS Word format) Advertisements Only
Business Card Size (2X3) - \$25/issue Quarter Page (4X5) - \$60/issue Half Page (5x6.75) - \$100/
issue

Ad acceptance is subject to the discretion of the Board.

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Board members maintain throughout the year a process of disseminating new information and decision-making via telecommunications.

www.bdpconsulting.com/FSARN.html



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