

FLUTTER WAVES

June 2019

American Association of Critical Care Nurses - Northwest Chicago Area Chapter

P.O. Box 1163 - Arlington Heights, IL 60006-1163

Website: nwchicagoaacn.org

Presidents Message

Attending the 2019 NTI this year has been amazing and unforgettable! It was an honor to be present at the 50th anniversary of AACN along with over 8550 nurses!

The Leadership Development Workshop (LDW) Keynote speaker was Mary Bylone, Past AACN Board Member, who discussed aspects of a Healthy Work Environment and challenged us to apply these standards in our units and our chapters. The standards include: Skilled Communication, True Collaboration, Effective Decision Making, Appropriate Staffing, Authentic Leadership, and Meaningful Recognition. I have found these six standards are essential for a working environment to have positive results in providing effective and sustainable outcomes. At the LDW, we also met with our Chapter Advisory Team, CAT Anna Mall (No. Carolina) and other Chapter leaders from Region 10 (Illinois) including, Northwest Chicago Area Chapter, Greater Chicago Area Chapter, Peoria, Rockford, Springfield and our newest Chapter-River to River Chapter in Carbondale, IL.



Our chapter received the Circle of Excellence awards during the Leadership Development Workshop at NTI on May 19. The Northwest Chicago Area Chapter received the following awards:

**Excellence in Chapter Leadership Development,
Excellence in Chapter Educational Programming,
Excellence in Chapter Community Education & Public Service,
Excellence in Chapter Collaboration**

Congratulating our chapter were Lisa Riggs, AACN President, Denise Buonocore, Chair of AACN Certification Board of Directors, and President-Elect Megan Brunson. Our chapter was honored on the large Circle of Excellence poster, on the marquee, and the stage.



We also met Penny Vaughan, director of critical care at Vanderbilt Medical Center. In 1969, Penny was present at the first AACN meeting with Norma Shepard, the founder of AACN, where they discussed beginning a new critical care nursing organization. Penny was the first AACN secretary. It was wonderful to meet her and discuss her vision for AACN. Today, AACN has over 120,000 members! Through these courageous and forward-thinking nurses, AACN was born!



At the Presidents luncheon, we were honored to sit with AACN's Past President, Mary Fran Tracey. It was such a delight to have her with us and amazingly, Katherina Bays (River to River Chapter IL) sat next to Mary Fran and was able to discuss her new chapter with an AACN past president!



Many terrific speakers inspired over 8550 nurses, and led us through a week filled with education and motivation.

President Lisa Riggs delivered an emotional farewell saying, "I'm totally in awe of all your professional accomplishments in nursing. Sometimes, I have to pinch myself when I realize that I am in the company of greatness. I am continually amazed at all you do to plan for AACN's future. It's changing so rapidly and it's so chaotic, but you do such a brilliant job of it." Lisa passed the AACN flame to President-Elect, Megan Brunson.

On Wednesday, AACN's President Elect, Megan Brunson arrived on stage wearing nursing scrubs. Megan shared her perspective on bedside nursing. She is the Night-shift supervisor in the cardiovascular ICU (CVICU) at Medical City Dallas Hospital.



Megan's been an unstoppable force since she was kicked out of nursing school in her senior year. From self-proclaimed "reject" to bedside night shift nurse to AACN president, Brunson has resilience, passion and most of all, grit, which inspired this year's AACN theme: **Unstoppable**. "Unstoppable is knowing if we get knocked down, we get up again," Brunson said. "Unstoppable is using our unique talents to expose inefficiencies and celebrate positive, innovative solutions, no matter how small. Unstoppable is gaining momentum from others — pushing each other to take certification exams, precept another RN or comfort a colleague. As nurses, we are Unstoppable 'from the inside out' when we practice self-care and stretch ourselves into the unfamiliar."

Brunson's presentation filled us with motivation and positive thoughts to provide our patients with exceptional care and healthcare which allows nurses to make their optimal contribution! "I am humbled and privileged to serve as AACN's 50th president," Brunson said. "I look forward to traveling around the country for the

next year meeting nurses. Nurses who are filled with spirit and grit, like me, you, we, us, our AACN community — who are unwavering, unmatched and unshakeable. But most of all: **Unstoppable!**"



UNSTOPPABLE

2019—2020 Board of Directors

President—Judy Giovannelli
Secretary and MWC Secretary—Debbie Kantoris
Treasurer—Kathy Voss
Treasurer Elect—Shelia Melo Grospe
Program Co-chair—Linda Smith
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Media Relations—RoseMary Pieniazek
Hospitality—Rosi Grande
Hospitality Co-chair—Nancy Harberichter
Awards & Scholarships—Sheila Coogan
Community Liaison—Sheila Coogan

Welcome to all of our board members. Thank you all for serving on the board of this great organization. We are still in need of a President Elect if anyone is interested. Also, if anyone is interested in becoming a board learning partner, please contact Judy (judygiovannelli@yahoo.com) or anyone on the board for more info.

Judy Giovannelli

NWCAC President 2018-2019

Awards and Scholarships

Every Spring NWCAC recognizes the dedication and “Unstoppable” hard work of our chapter volunteers over the past 2018-2019. The accomplishments of our chapter is because of YOU. Point accumulation will apply to activities you have been involved in with the chapter as of July 1, 2018. Specific forms for point accumulation and request for re-imbursement are available on our chapter website: www.nwchicagoaacn.org.

Completed form submission with receipts will be due at the Wednesday, June 5th Chapter meeting or the Saturday, June 15th Educational Program. If you have any questions, please contact me at sheilarn22@yahoo.com

Sheila Coogan

Awards and Scholarship Chair

Membership

With this year finishing out this month, we are continuing to look to grow our chapter. Please ask your colleagues to think about joining a chapter that recently won four national awards presented at NTI. For every 4 people you recruit, we will pay a one year national AACN membership fee for you. Come join a great group of nurses passionate about critical care nursing!

Kirsten Howe

Membership Chair



NWCAC EDUCATIONAL OFFERING

Saturday, June 15, 2019

7:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Agenda

7:30—Breakfast and Networking

8:00—General Chapter Meeting and Educational Program

Location

Northwest Community Hospital

Classrooms 1-6/1-7 (Across From The Auditorium)

800 Central Rd.

Arlington Heights, IL

Topics

“Heat Related Emergencies”

by Linda Smith, MS, RN, CCRN-K

“Nurses and Substance Abuse Disorders”

By Janet Pickett, RN, CARN, CADC

“An Overview of the Illinois Poison Center”

by Amy Deitche, BSN, RN,



No Registration, Free Parking

Continental Breakfast Provided

Free for all NWCAC Members; \$30.00 for non-members

For further information contact

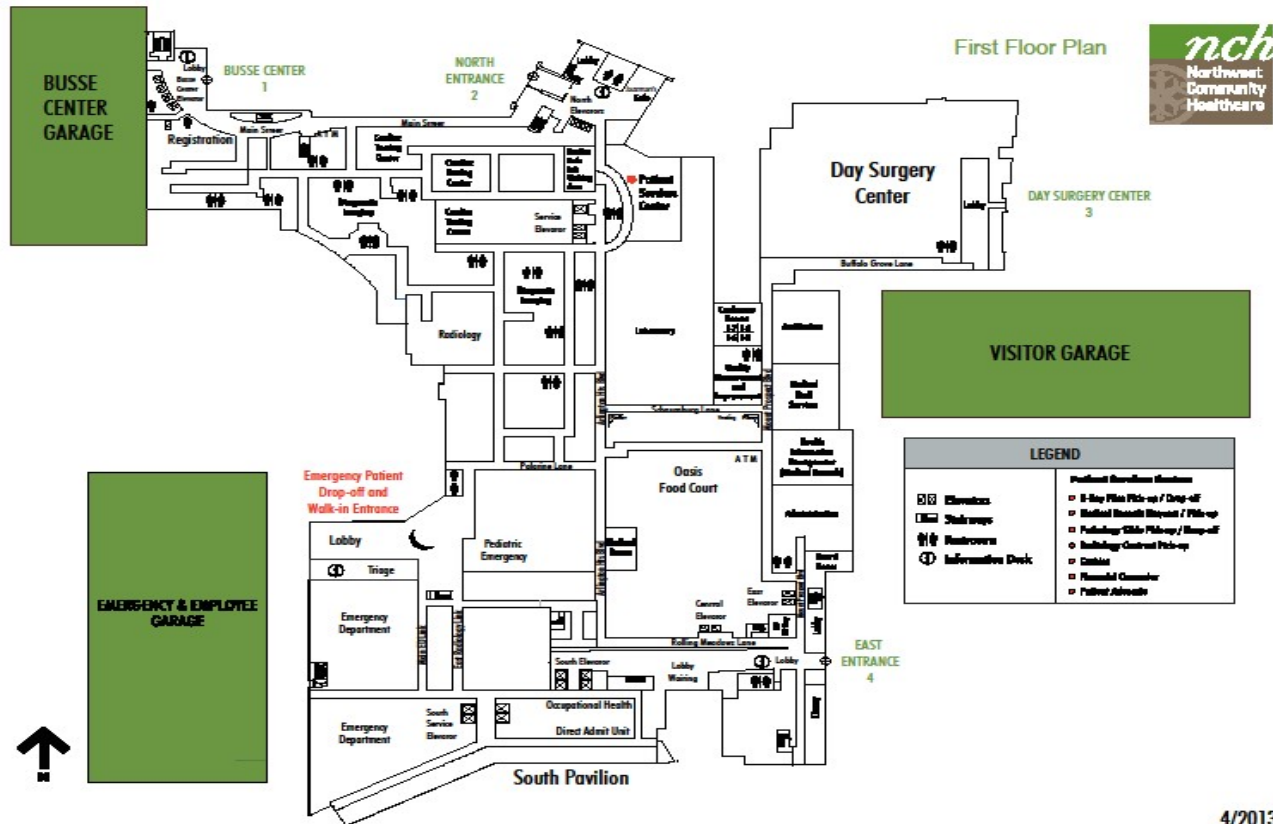
Linda Smith at lindacdhrn@aol.com

“This activity has been submitted to the American Association of Critical-Care Nurse for approval to award contact hours. The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.”

Directions to the Chapter Meeting

This month's meeting is located in Classrooms 1-6/1-7

(located across from the auditorium)



4/2013





President

Judy Giovanelli, RN, MSN,
CCRN, PCCN, FACCN-II

Past President

Cynthia Bender, APN-CNP

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Debbie Kantoris, MSN,
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Treasurer-Elect

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Marie Hagman, MSN,
ACCNS-AG, CCRN

Membership

Kirsten Howe, RN, BSN,
CCRN

Midwest Conference

Cindy Ruiz, APN, CCRN

Media Relations, Newsletter

RoseMary Pieniazek, RN,
BSN

Hospitality

Rosina Grande, RN, MS,
CCRN, CGRN, CMSRN

Awards & Scholarships

Sheila Coogan, RN, MSN

Community Liaison

Sheila Coogan, RN, MSN

Board Learning Partner

Nancy Haberichter, RN

Web Site

<http://nwchicagoaacn.org>

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