

# FLUTTER WAVES

September 2020

American Association of Critical Care Nurses - Northwest Chicago Area Chapter

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

Website: [nwchicagoaacn.org](http://nwchicagoaacn.org)

## President's Message and Updates

Welcome to the 2020-2021 Northwest Chicago Area Chapter (NWCAC) AACN year. Whether you are new to our chapter or have been a member for many years, we welcome you. 2020 has certainly been a challenging year for all healthcare professions, especially nursing. It has truly proved itself as The Year of The Nurse.

The 2021 AACN theme chosen by AACN President - Elizabeth Bridges PhD, RN, CCNS, FCCM, FAAN is *THIS IS OUR MOMENT- ALL IN*. You can view her welcome message at <https://youtu.be/eaU93Nrwy60>. I don't think that this theme could be more fitting than during this time of pandemic, economic crisis and national protests leading to physical illness and mental turmoil.

These past few months I have not been prouder to be a nurse. Whether you are at the bedside or leading your staff through education or ensuring everybody has the supplies they need, everybody has been "all hands-on deck". A great example of this is the many nurses that came back from retirement to help out during these unprecedented times. In what other profession would this occur? That is All In.

As nurses we are resilient and when faced with a challenge, whether big or small, we push forward. We are there for our patients, the community, and our peers. Nobody knows what the future will hold, but one thing that I have learned from AACN is to be at the top of my game. AACN provides us with the tools to take care of our patients and community. If you have not been on the AACN website recently, I recommend you read the plethora of infor-

mation related to COVID-19. Our local chapter also adds to that knowledge base with our quarterly educational offerings. Instead of meeting in person, we will hold the meetings virtually to provide a safe learning environment as per guidelines of AACN until January 2021.

Thank you for electing me as your president. I want to first thank Judy Giovanelli, the past president, for her strong leadership. Under her leadership, our chapter was recognized with four Circle of Excellence Awards by AACN in 2019. I have some big shoes to fill, but I look forward to this opportunity to work with the chapter board and members to continue to grow in knowledge and service to the community, patients and ourselves. I started out as Board Learning Partner for the chapter, so I encourage you to think about this prospect.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact the chapter at [NWCAC.aacn@gmail.com](mailto:NWCAC.aacn@gmail.com) or myself at [debbie.kantoris@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.kantoris@gmail.com)

Most Sincerely  
Debbie Kantoris, RN, MSN, CCNS, CCRN  
President, NWCAC-AACN

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THIS is OUR MOMENT *all in*

## **Membership**

### **The Northwest Chicago Area Chapter AACN is *all in***

**Calling for new members: 2020-2021**

- **Fees: 1 year-\$15.00; 2 years-\$25.00**
- **Must have an active National AACN membership to join**
- **Invited to attend NWCAC Board meetings at 6:30 pm on the Wednesday evening before the Saturday educational sessions (9/9, 11/11, 1/6, 6/9). Meetings are held at Northwest Community Hospital in the CCU Classroom (3NP) or via Zoom. If interested in attending, please contact Debbie Kantoris at [Debbie.kantoris@gmail.com](mailto:Debbie.kantoris@gmail.com) for link to Zoom conference.**
- **Quarterly Saturday morning meetings/education included with membership. Sessions start at 7:30am (Continental breakfast) and end at 12 noon on the following dates at Northwest Community Hospital for live sessions. Watch our Facebook page or website for updated information on meeting times and location during COVID-19.**

**September 12th-ZOOM conference**

**November 14th- Zoom conference**

**January 9th-Room 6&7**

**June 12th-Rooms 6&7**

- **Chapter sponsored Midwest Conference**

**Due to COVID-19, we are unsure at this time when we will be providing the MWC.**

**Apply for membership online at <http://nwchicagoaacn.org/>**

**\*\*Recruit 4 new chapter members, receive free 1 year AACN Membership**

**Questions? Contact Deb Marinoff: [heydeb@comcast.net](mailto:heydeb@comcast.net) or**

**Kirsten Howe: [khowe@nch.org](mailto:khowe@nch.org)**



# **NWCAC VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL OFFERING**

**Saturday, September 12, 2020**

**9:000 AM to 11:30 AM**

## **Agenda**

**0900-0915 Welcome and Chapter Announcements**

**0915-1130 Educational Sessions**

## **Topics**

***“Managing Seizures with Medications”***

**Kasey Greathouse, PharmD, BCCCP**

***“EEG at a Glance: Nurse’s Guide to Understanding”***

**Jennifer O’Brien, EEG T, CLTM**

**Both presenters will have time for questions and answers from the attendees.**

**Attendance is free but does require pre-registration by contacting Linda Smith at [lindacdhrn@aol.com](mailto:lindacdhrn@aol.com). Attendees will be eligible for earning 2 hours CE by attending the seminar and completing a short Survey monkey survey afterwards.**

***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 nursing continuing professional development y the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.***



THIS  
is OUR  
MOMENT



## **2020-2021 Board of Directors**

### **President**

Debbie Kantoris, RN, MSN,  
CCNS, CCRN

### **Past President**

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

### **Secretary**

Leslie Colliins, RN, APN-  
CNS, CCNS, CCRN-CSC

### **Co-Treasurer**

Kathy Voss, RN, BSN, CCRN

### **Co-Treasurer**

Sheila Melo-Grospe, RN,  
BSN, CM

### **Program Co-Chairs**

Linda Smith, RN, MSN,  
CCRN-K

Marie Hagman RN, MSN,  
ACCNS-AG, CCRN

### **Membership Co-Chairs**

Kirsten Howe, RN, BSN,  
CCRN

Debbie Marinoff, RN, BSN,  
CCRN-CSC, CMC

### **Midwest Conference**

Cindy Ruiz, RN, MS, APN,  
CCRN

### **Media Relations, News- letter**

RoseMary Pieniazek, RN,  
BSN

### **Hospitality Co-Chairs**

Rosina Grande, RN, MS,  
CCRN alum

Linda Lokun  
RN, ADN

### **Awards & Scholarships**

Sheila Coogan, RN, MSN

### **Community Liaison**

Sheila Coogan, RN, MSN

### **Web Site**

<http://nwchicagoaacn.org>

### **E-mail**

[nwcac.aacn@gmail.com](mailto:nwcac.aacn@gmail.com)