From the Boardroom...

LuAnn Buchholz, RN, CPSN

The August days of summer arriving means the heat is really on for most of us. That also means the Scientific Sessions Committee is putting the final touches on the annual meeting in Chicago. The program has something for everyone and will definitely fulfill your education needs. This year ASPS has designated a particular day as “ASPSN Day” at the convention center. Everything you need will be in one location. You will have educational sessions, time with the exhibitors, and, of course, food. There will be free transportation to the convention center, so watch for details in the brochure as travel time will need to be very structured.

If you know someone in our organization who is particularly outstanding in his or her practice in caring for patients or other staff members, please nominate him or her for nursing awards. Information can be found on the website at http://www.aspsn.org. This is an important way to give recognition to our peers and a great opportunity to show nurses doing what they do best.

The answer to last month’s trivia question: What do Chicago and Key West have in common? Answer: Ernest Hemingway, who claimed both locations as home.

Next month’s trivia question: What is the connection between blood and Chicago?

Editor’s Note

Susan Lamp, BSN, RN, CPSN

I have just accomplished a new skill this past weekend. I decided to replace the cushions on my screenroom furniture, not just redo the cushion covers, but totally replace them with new box cushions and covers. So I took a class at the local upholstery fabric and supply business and bought all of the necessary supplies: fabric, high density foam, Dacron wrap, zipper by the foot…. I invested my time in the class and several hundred dollars in supplies, and then it was time to get sewing. I have to admit, I was a little anxious about this project…a sofa, chair and ottoman….seven cushions in all. By Sunday evening I had completed three of the cushions, and I can’t stop admiring my accomplishment so far.

It’s stimulating to attempt new skills and an enriching process to see this through to completion. We all must find new skills both at work and in our personal life. Educate ourselves and then set out to put this into practice. Thomas Paine has said that “The harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly. It is dearness only that gives everything its value.”

Remember: learn new skills, try something beyond your comfort zone, and then sit back and enjoy your accomplishment!
Board Approves New Grant Policy

The ASPSN Board recently approved a new policy on industry and philanthropic grants. The purpose of the new policy is to ensure that industry grants will benefit ASPSN, its members, and its convention attendees to the fullest extent possible. Members can review the policy below. All ASPSN policies and procedures can be found on the ASPSN website. The Policy and Procedure Manual is found on the ASPSN website in Online Documents under Miscellaneous. If you have any questions or feedback for the Board, send your comments to Patricia Barlow at patricia.barlow@dancyamc.com.

Industry and Philanthropic Grants

The American Society of Plastic Surgical Nurses (ASPSN) will pursue grants that benefit ASPSN in terms of financial profit, financial savings, visibility, public relations, and member relations.

- Budgets developed for grants will ensure that all administrative costs are covered.
- Budgets developed for grants will provide for additional funds accruing to ASPSN, whenever possible.
- Staff will develop budgets for all grants made to industry and/or funding organizations.
- Staff will coordinate the development of content specific to the specialty with a content expert identified by the Board of Directors.
- All grants will be submitted and applied for through the ASPSN National Office.
- The ASPSN tax identification number is not to be shared or used by individual members or third parties.
- All grants will be payable to the American Society of Plastic Surgical Nurses and sent to the ASPSN National Office for financial tracking as opposed to a single member, speaker, or other entity related to ASPSN.
- Grants applied for will benefit all ASPSN members, whenever possible.
- For grants related to the annual convention, funds will benefit all convention participants, whenever possible, as opposed to a particular speaker or group of attendees.
- Staff will notify the Board of all grant requests submitted on behalf of ASPSN.
- Grants involving a continuing education component shall include preparation and distribution of enduring materials (e.g., CD-ROM) to members, whenever possible.
Plastic Surgical Nursing-related News

**Single Surgery Tumor Removal and Breast Reconstruction**
Cancer surgeons are learning techniques to remove breast tumors and reconstruct the breast during the same surgery. Proponents say that this single surgery, called oncoplastic surgery, speeds up recovery and circumvents complications that arise with successive surgeries. There is no professional certification at this time.

Surgeons say that a shortage of reconstructive surgeons and a lack of reimbursement for reconstructive surgery on the part of some insurance providers propel the need and desire among patients for this process.


**Federal Interagency Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance**
The Federal Interagency Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance is revising its current action plan detailing the development and implementation of programs to tackle antimicrobial resistance. The revisions will focus on critical steps to take against antimicrobial resistance for the next three to five years and will be released for comments this fall.

**Other News**
Risk of C. Difficile High With Perioperative Antibiotic Prophylaxis

Blood Substitute Safely Reduces Need for Transfusion Following Elective Surgery

U.S. Electronic Health-Record Standards Agreed

NSAIDs Offer No Protection Against Melanoma

CPSN CORNER

Jacqueline Frazee, BSN, CNOR, RNFA, CPSN
Director, PSNCB

François de la Rochefoucauld stated, “The only thing constant in life is change.” We all know this to be true, but we don’t necessarily like change or embrace it. Change makes you grow personally, professionally, and emotionally. We are constantly challenged to look at our practice and be in constant readiness for unannounced visits from the Joint Commission or chart auditing from Medicare. The old method of charting is perhaps no longer acceptable practice to receive reimbursement, so we must move to electronic charting. It is with this in mind that I reiterate to you the importance of submitting solid packets for recertification. It requires forethought as you look to your recertification date; you must plan ahead and carefully select plastic surgery specific content to count toward your 30 hours. What may have been acceptable/questionable content in the past may not necessarily be approved for recertification if the criteria are not met or the documentation does not support recertification. **The new ASPSN website has a wealth of information at your fingertips with examples of what is an acceptable submission for the different continuing education categories.** And as always, when in doubt, call the PSNCB National Office for verification at (800) 272-0136. And finally, this process is not meant to be punitive but rather to uphold the accreditation you have received that is beyond your nursing licensure.

**Question:** I have attended the national ASPSN meeting, and it has a presentation that appears to be general nursing content. Does this count toward my 30 hours of plastic surgery content?

**Answer:** Yes, all continuing education credits earned at the national or regional meetings count toward your 30 hours as it is approved by the ASPSN.
Research Committee Column

Marlene Rankin, PhD

Ethical Principles in Research: Full Disclosure

Full disclosure means that the researcher has fully described the nature of the study, the person’s right to refuse participation, the researcher’s responsibilities, and likely risks and benefits to the subject and the researcher. Most peer reviewed journals require a researcher to disclose any conflict of interest, such as drug company consulting fees or medical device patents.

Recently, the results of a study published in the May 2008 Journal of The American Medical Association (JAMA) has been questioned because of an ethical dilemma. The researcher Charles Natanson, MD, an anesthesiologist and senior NIH investigator, was lead author of a paper titled "Cell Free Hemoglobin-Based Blood Substitutes (HBBS) and Risk of Myocardial Infarction and Death, meta-analysis" (2008). The study reviewed the untoward effects of blood products on cardiovascular outcomes. Hemoglobin molecules used to manufacture these products are not contained by a red cell membrane and, when released into the vasculature, rapidly scavenge nitric oxide. This can result in systemic vasoconstriction, decreased blood flow, increased release of proinflammatory mediators, and potent vasoconstrictors with a loss of platelet inactivation. Problematic consequences may lead to vascular thrombosis of the heart or other organs.

The design was a meta-analysis of sixteen trials involving 5 different blood products and 3,711 surgical and trauma patients. The study selection included randomized controlled trials of patients 19 years and older who received HBBS therapeutically. The databases identified 70 trials, of which 13 studies and several press release data trials met the criteria for inclusion in the meta-analysis. In the studies reviewed, there were 164 deaths in the HBBS treated group compared to 123 deaths in the control group and 59 MIs in the HBBS group compared to only 16 MIs in the control group. The authors concluded that use of hemoglobin-based drug substitutes was associated with a significant risk of death and MI and were critical of the blood-based substitutes currently on the market.

Medical writer Shirley Wang reported in the Wall Street Journal (Saturday, July 13, 2008) that lead researcher Dr. Charles Natanson may have biased the study’s results because of a conflict of interest. Dr. Natanson disclosed he had received monetary compensation from a blood substitute company. He did not disclose he was listed as a co-inventor on a pending patent for technology being developed at the NIH that could potentially make the products safer. This ethical dilemma undermines the scientific rigor of the research and questions the study’s conclusions.

Reference
Millions of women throughout the country are discovering the first-ever consumer advertising campaign for breast implants, featuring The Natrelle™ Collection of Breast Implants from Allergan. Appearing in many popular women’s magazines nationwide, this direct-to-consumer initiative is designed to responsibly educate and inform women who are considering implantation about the variety of options available to suit their individual needs.

**OUR CONSUMER CAMPAIGN**

What does all this mean for you? It means more women will be coming in for consultations. More patients may be opting for surgery. All in all, it means better figures for you and your patients.

To learn more about The Natrelle™ Collection of Breast Implants, contact your sales representative, call 1-800-970-6967, or visit us on the web at NATRELLE.com and see how we can transform your vision into reality.

Your vision. Our science.
2008 Scientific Sessions Update

Georgia Elmassian, BAS, RN, CPSN
Scientific Sessions Co-Chair

This month your Scientific Sessions Planning Committee would like to remind all our Chicago convention attendees of their civic responsibility. The 2008 National Elections will be held during the ASPSN fall meeting. Therefore, please be certain to inquire from your local government how to cast an absentee ballot in order for your vote to be counted on Election Day, November 4, 2008. Although all states allow absentee voting, the procedures and qualifications vary from state to state. For example, the deadlines for obtaining an absentee ballot before the election can vary. The proper ballot formats are prescribed by each state election board and can be found and accessed on your own state government’s website. You may also contact your local county clerk’s office for additional information or request that an absentee ballot be mailed to you. Be a conscientious ASPSN member and citizen: VOTE!

News from the Midwest

Sue Kunz, BS, RN, CPSN
Director, ASPSN

Hard to believe August is here. I hope that everyone is enjoying the summer months. In just a couple of months, we will once again meet in Chicago for our annual convention. Not that I am wishing my summer away, but I am looking forward to gathering with old friends, meeting new members, and becoming revitalized by the energy of a dynamic group of extremely talented people.

In May, Jacquie Frazee and Christine Brajkovich from the Cleveland Clinic held a joint meeting with the Ohio Valley Plastic Surgeons. Forty-five nurses attended the meeting. Marcia Spear held the CPSN review course, which was well attended. Two nurses sat for the CPSN exam; the others I hope will take the exam in Chicago. Topics included Patient Positioning in the OR, with Special Attention the Plastic Surgery Patient; Botox and its Many Uses; Injectables; and Body Contouring Following Massive Weight Loss. Jacquie reported they received very positive feedback, as there had not been a nursing portion to the Ohio Valley Meeting in Cleveland for a few years.

Are there any other meetings coming up? Please pass on your news so we can stay connected.

Certification Exam Grant

In its continued effort to work collaboratively with physicians and nurses to impact opportunities to promote and acquire knowledge, Allergan Academy will again sponsor certification grants for the 2008 CPSN examination.

To qualify for an exam certification grant one must be a registered nurse, a member of ASPSN, meet the specific criteria for certification, and complete and submit an application form prior to August 21, 2008.

Certification exam grants will cover the cost of taking the certification examination and will be presented to recipients at the ASPSN National Convention in Chicago, Illinois, at the awards ceremony. The certification grant must be used during the year following presentation. If a recipient has taken the certification examination at the 2008 ASPSN National Convention prior to the Awards Ceremony, a reimbursement check will be presented.

PSNCB thanks Allergan Academy for once again sponsoring nursing education endeavors.

Please see the following page for the certification exam grant application.
Application for Certification Exam Grant  
(Available to ASPSN members only)

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________ Date Joined ASPSN: _____________

E-mail: _____________________________________________________________________

Employer: ____________________________________________________________________

Employer Address: ____________________________________________________________________

Requirements: Submission deadline is August 21, 2008

☐ ASPSN member in good standing
☐ Meet PSNCB requirements for certification
☐ Certification examination must be taken within one year of issued grant

1. Please discuss in 100 words or less your reason for applying for this grant to take the plastic surgical nursing certification exam. (Attach additional pages if needed.)
2. List any current or past involvement with ASPSN. (Attach additional pages if needed.)

I, the undersigned, am an active member of ASPSN, currently working in plastic surgery, and meet application requirements for the CPSN examination.

Signed, ________________________________________________________________

Please send completed applications to

PSNCB National Office
7794 Grow Drive
Pensacola, FL 32514
Looking for a Chapter Near You?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Country</th>
<th>Chapter Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA</td>
<td>Southern California Chapter</td>
<td>Judy Akin Palmer, San Juan Capistrano, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CANADA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>INDIANA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>KANSAS/MISSOURI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MASSACHUSETTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NEW YORK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NORTH CAROLINA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OHIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PHILADELPHIA/DELAWARE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>WISCONSIN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you would like information on starting a local ASPSN chapter, please contact Richelle Torres, Chapter Services Specialist at richelle.torres@dancyamc.com

We had an awesome time at our dance in San Diego! Thank you ASPSN for allowing Marena Rewards to host this event!

See you in Chicago!
American Society of Plastic Surgical Nurses, Inc.
7994 Grow Drive
Pensacola, FL 32514

Claudette J. Heddens, MA, BSN, ARNP, CPSN
President

Patricia Barlow
Executive Director

Susan Lamp, BSN, RN, CPSN
ASPSNews Editor

2008 ASPSN 34th ANNUAL CONVENTION
October 31 – November 5, 2008
The Westin Michigan Avenue • Chicago, IL

ASPSN SPONSORS

EMERALD
ALLERGAN, The Science of Rejuvenation™

DIAMOND CORPORATE
The Marena Group

PLATINUM
Advanced Bio-Technologies, Inc.

GOLD
Medicis

SILVER
BioForm

À LA CARTE
Dermik (a division of sanofi-aventis)

Calendar of Events

Canadian Plastic Surgical Nurses Symposium will meet September 12 - 13, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Montreal, in Montreal, Canada.

More information and a registration form can be found at the ASPSN website: https://www.aspsn.org/dmdocuments/CPSNS%20Symposium_9_12_08.pdf.

Or contact C-NET at (800) 463-0786 or Sue Kunz, President of PSNCB, at skunz@ticon.net.

American Society of Plastic Surgical Nurses 2008 Annual Convention
October 31 – November 5, 2008
Chicago, IL

Plastic Surgical Nursing: A Time for Challenges and Changes

The Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago

The Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago, is holding rooms for ASPSN at a rate of $269 single or $289 double (plus applicable taxes) until September 28, 2008, or until the room block is filled. For reservations call (888) 627-8385 or (866) 716-8104.

If you have any questions, please call the ASPSN National Office toll free at (800) 272-0136 or (850) 473-2443.