From the Boardroom...

LuAnn Buchholz, RN, CPSN
2008 President-Elect

The time is drawing near for the 34th Annual ASPSN National Convention in Chicago. If you haven’t received your registration booklet in the mail, please contact the national office at (800) 272-0136 today for a copy. In the booklet you will find nursing education for general plastics, reconstructive, and aesthetics. Maybe this is the year to select sessions for which you have little knowledge or don’t have access. The best way to broaden our plastic education is to learn about something that isn’t incorporated in our daily jobs.

This year we are adding our new Interactive Networking Roundtables to facilitate open discussion regarding certain topics. This is also a great way to make new friends early in the week and find a colleague to share activities with. Please be sure and attend the ASPSN Opening Reception on Friday where we promise to kick off your convention with enthusiasm that will last for days. Since this is also Halloween don’t you dare stay away from the “Spooktacular Monster Mash Party!” Whether you choose to dress in costume or not, plenty of fun, food, drink, and dancing music will be the theme. If you have yet to attend one of our dances, you have no idea what you are missing. What a great way to celebrate the evening!

This year we will be enjoying “ASPSN Day at the Convention Center” on Monday, November 3. Please make sure you have ample time available for our buses to transport you to McCormick Place. This is a new venture for ASPSN, and we want your feedback as to how valuable/enjoyable you found this day to be. Staff will be on hand at the convention center to collect your comments.

The Annual Business meeting has become a great time for members to hear what is going on behind the scenes with ASPSN. We hope that you feel this information is important and that you will be a part of discussions for upcoming educational offerings or questions you might have for the Board of Directors.

As my presidency begins to stare me in the face, I have a stomach full of butterflies but a heart full of pride. I have loved this organization and its members for years, and I want to serve you well in the upcoming year. My hope is you won’t take ASPSN for granted. We are one of a kind and cannot be duplicated! Enjoy your time in Chicago!
Call for Newsletter Editor

ASPSN is seeking an editor for its newsletter ASPSNews. Articles in ASPSNews provide information about the organization including committee, convention, certification, and membership information. ASPSNews also publishes brief articles in the areas of education, research, and patient care.

The editor of the ASPSNews

- Collaborates with staff on publication format and design,
- Identifies individuals to submit columns and articles,
- Develops ongoing plans and procedures for contributions and a yearly production schedule,
- Writes columns for ASPSNews as required,
- Maintains regular communication with board members as necessary,
- Reviews and approves all content, and
- Uses expertise of others as appropriate to review articles for accuracy.

The editor should have the following qualifications:

- Plastic surgical nursing experience in practice, education, administration, or research
- Documented writing ability as evidenced by publication or previous editorial experience
- ASPSN membership
- Current plastic surgery nursing practice focus

Interested applicants should send their CV along with a cover letter to Call for Newsletter Editor, ASPSN National Office, 7794 Grow Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514. Applications may also be sent by fax—(850) 484-8762—or as an e-mail attachment to ASPSN@dancyamc.com with the subject line “Call for Newsletter Editor.”

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34TH ANNUAL CONVENTION
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC SURGICAL NURSES

Plastic Surgical Nursing: A Time for Challenges and Changes

OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 5, 2008
THE WESTIN MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL
Editor’s Note

I’m writing this article on September 12 and as the seventh anniversary of the terrorist attack passes and the threat of Hurricane Ike making landfall looms in the Gulf of Mexico, I am thinking about the unique position we are in as nurses. We chose a career that attracts persons who are, by nature, generous and wanting to help the ill and injured. During our nursing career, we have become skilled at problem solving, learning new skills and implementing new technologies into our day to day lives. In the article “Ready, Willing, and Able: Preparing Nurses to Respond to Disasters,” Cheryl Peterson, the Senior Policy Analyst for the American Nurses Association, is quoted stating that health professionals, including nurses, should not show up spontaneously to volunteer in the wake of a disaster: “These health professionals are unknown to command and control personnel and cannot be used to their full potential. Those in charge of relief efforts won’t know who you are, what your abilities or educational background are, or even if your license is valid. In some cases, it creates more work for those leading the response operation to deal with spontaneous volunteers.”

The article identifies the primary organizations that exist for healthcare professionals interested in volunteering for disaster response. Issues such as licensure, malpractice protection and workers’ compensation are also discussed in the article.

I encourage all of you to read the article and consider becoming a volunteer before a disaster occurs.

Susan Lamp

Preparing Nurses to Respond to Disaster

A recent article by Laura A. Stokowski, RN, MS, asks how many nurses are willing to jump to the aid of patients in a disaster or mass casualty event and, more importantly, how many nurses would be ready with the knowledge of emergency preparedness and disaster response.

Recent events, she says, frequently remind us of how underprepared we may be to respond in times of crisis, but in order to effectively respond training and organization are necessary.

At the state and federal level, organized response registries provide advanced registration and training for disaster scenarios for healthcare professionals. If you have the desire to make yourself available as part of any disaster response teams, Stokowski’s article discusses several of the disaster response organizations and how they might fit your interests and lifestyle. Contact information is also provided. http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/579888

NEEDED: Operation SMILE Volunteers

Dr. Bill Magee, a plastic surgeon and his wife, Kathy, a nurse and clinical social worker, founded Operation Smile in 1982. Operation Smile is a worldwide children’s medical charity that provides free reconstructive surgery and related healthcare to children and young adults born with facial deformities.

Throughout the world, Operation Smile volunteers repair childhood facial deformities while building public and private partnerships that advocate sustainable healthcare systems for children and families. Together we create smiles, change lives, and heal humanity.

To facilitate our nursing volunteer needs, Operation Smile invites you to visit its website at www.operationsmile.com. Operation Smile appreciates that you are specialty trained and experienced in plastic and reconstructive surgery, and it requires this expertise to staff its medical missions in OR, PACU, and Pre/Post-Op.

Please help Operation Smile deliver a Global Standard of Patient Care: the highest standards for every child, every time. It is our commitment to ensure that every patient treated by Operation Smile will benefit from the same sophisticated equipment and highly trained professionals, like the members of the ASPSN.

Help us continue our effort to serve the children of the world.

Linda Highfield, RN, CNOR
Chair, Operation Smile Nursing Council
Where there’s awareness, there’s hope.

We support Susan G. Komen for the Cure.
To learn more about breast reconstruction options with the Natrelle® Collection, go to natrelle.com
News from the Midwest

The Wisconsin Chapter met Sept 10th for a dinner meeting at Flemings Steak House sponsored by Ethicon, Inc. Chapter President Cindy Leu organized the event, which was well attended. There was time for wine, hors d’oeuvres, and visiting with old friends and greeting newcomers. This was followed by a great presentation during dinner on Flex HD, an acellular dermal matrix, presented by Christian Lindsay and Andrea Alvarez from Ethicon, Inc.

After dinner, a brief meeting was held. Melissa Fischer was elected as Secretary/Treasurer, and Sandy Enea will serve as President-Elect.

The next meeting, Laser Technology, will be in January, at the Clinic of Cosmetic Surgery.

Tennessee/Alabama Chapter 11th Annual Meeting

The TN/AL meeting took place August 1-3 in Nashville, TN, at the Marriott at Vanderbilt University with approximately 60 attendees. The weekend began on Friday with the CPSN exam followed by fabulous dancing sponsored by the Marena Group. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the variety of music and showed their best Fred and Ginger routine.

The next two days were full of awesome food, enthusiastic exhibitors, and a great mixture of plastic surgery topics. Thanks to all our sponsors who made it possible for this continuing nursing education. The 2009 meeting will be held in Huntsville, AL.
American Society of Plastic Surgical Nurses, Inc.
7794 Grow Drive
Pensacola, FL 32514

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President

Patricia Barlow
Executive Director

Susan Lamp, BSN, RN, CPSN
ASPSNews Editor

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.

Calendar of Events

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