

## AORN members,

Happy New Year!!! I hope everyone had a safe and memorable holiday season. Time spent with family and good friends is usually not as plentiful during the rest of the year as it is during the holidays. I hope you took some time off to share happy memories and good times with those close to you.

We had the Elf Louise project on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thanks to all who attended. From the reports I received, the attendees enjoyed wrapping gifts for the children of San Antonio. If you attended, please let me know. I would like to acknowledge and thank you for volunteering for this event.

Thanks to all that attended and celebrated December's festivity with us at Chuy's on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. It seemed like those in attendance were having a good time, catching up with old friends and making new friends.

If you know someone who received their CNOR in 2017, please email me. I would like to recognize those who took that giant step. This is an important time in their lives and we should celebrate their accomplishment in the newsletter. I know Methodist had several nurses who received their certification. I know there must be others. Please share this information.

If there were other celebrations that you would like to share with the group, let me know. It would be a shame to not start taking advantage of our new website. That is what websites are for! It is aornsanantonio.org.

January 27, 2018 (i.e., the date of the symposium) is quickly approaching. The Symposium committee has been working hard to make this 3<sup>rd</sup> symposium an event you will find informative and fun. We have a wide variety of "give-aways" as well, so please, sign up now.

After we have all recovered from the Symposium, we will start planning a fun event for Fiesta. Kumi Sarles, our Board Member, has submitted a request for us to march in the King William Parade, April 28<sup>th</sup>. For those of you who have purchased our Fiesta medals in 2016 and 2017, the 2018 medals will be available for Fiesta 2018.

After a day of play, perhaps we'll have enough momentum to volunteer to serve the Bridge People Under the Bridge. Our next participation day is April 29<sup>th</sup>. I will contact Ellen Ott, about this event. More details to come. Since we had so many volunteers at the last Bridge event, I'm hoping we can do so again.

The Scholarship committee will be meeting soon as well. Scholarships are available for nursing students or nurses who are working on their BSN or MSN degrees. If you are interested, we can email an application to you or hand it to you at the meeting on Monday.

This Monday, our speaker is Brandon Ashpaugh from Ethican. The topic for our meeting is "Hazards of Surgical Smoke", 1 CEU. He will be available to speak on product updates as well. Dinner will be provided. See you then!

Rachel J. Barrera, RN, CNOR President AORN San Antonio Chapter 4409 January 8, 2018