

# REGION 3 NEWS

American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Region 3 Newsletter

November 2014



## Chapter Awards

### Region 3 Chapters:

**Focus the Flame** and nominate your chapter for the 2015 AACN Circle of Excellence Awards for Chapters.

AACN chapters that have made a difference in the healthcare profession and their communities are chosen each year to receive AACN Circle of Excellence Awards. This awards program recognizes contributions and achievements that exemplify AACN's mission, vision, values and ethic of care, and applauds excellence.

### Award categories - submit exemplar by November 1st:

- Excellence in Chapter Collaboration
- Excellence in Community Education & Public Service
- Excellence in Educational Programming
- Excellence in Leadership Development
- Excellence in Promoting the Value of Certification

### Award - submit exemplar by February 15th:

- AACN President's Award for Chapters

Visit AACN's [Chapter Awards Page](#) to review **eligibility and submission requirements**, learn **TIPS** for writing your exemplar and reference the

**2014 Chapter Award Recipient Exemplar Booklet**



Please complete our 5 question **SURVEY** regarding student nurse participation in chapters. Access is extended to allow responses to be shared with our chapter leaders.

### *Ethic of Care:*

*AACN's mission, vision and values are framed within an ethic of care and ethical principles.*

*Essential to an ethic of care are compassion, collaboration, accountability and trust.*

*Within the context of interrelationships of individuals and circumstances, traditional ethical principles provide a basis for deliberation and decision making.*

*These ethical principles include: Respect for Persons, Beneficence and Justice.*

**- AACN**

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## Chapter Best Practices

How to succeed as an AACN Chapter

### Healthy Work Environment (HWE) is the *Golden Rule*

*Collaborate*

*Communicate*

*Participate*

*Make effective decisions*

*Recognize and celebrate*

*Lead by example*

Apply these same standards from our workplaces to our chapter operations

### Chapter Needs Assessment

Where to begin?

*Learn the needs of your chapter members*

**HERE** is an example of a regional poll to assess chapter member needs

utilize Teamwork and Available Resources to  
Maintain 100% Good Standing Compliance

### HAVE A STATÉGIC PLAN

An annual operating plan is important to develop so that the chapter board and members know what the annual goals for the chapter are, and it provides a mechanism to regularly review the status of those goals.

Chapters that develop and actively review their annual operating plan are much more successful than those chapters that do not have a plan.

This form has space for 6 objectives and 6 activities that would be required to achieve the sample objectives. Your chapter may have more or less, depending on your operating / annual plan.

Successful Chapters HAVE FUN  
and Celebrate Accomplishments!

... How Purrfect!

Meows (Kudos) from your CAT



Congrats to JSC, SVAACN, SePA, &  
GJC for completing educational  
events so far this fiscal year!


# Regional Calendar of Events \*\* see attachments

## November

- 5\*\*      Susquehanna Valley \* Cornucopia of Knowledge in Acute and Critical Care \* Kathleen Vollman is guest speaking
- 10\*\*      Three Rivers Chapter \* Presentation of CSI Cases \* Linda Reid, MSN, RN, JD
- 12, 19 \*\*      Doylestown Hospital in Warrington, PA will host a 2-day CCRN/ PCCN review class provided by experienced SePA Certification Committee members. To follow, Doylestown Hospital will offer on site pencil and paper certification exams on December 4, 2014.

Stay Updated Regarding National Teaching Institute (NTI)

Housing  
Is  
OPEN



Plan  
to attend  
LDW

## Updates From the National AACN Office

### Financial Quarterly Reports

ALL must be submitted electronically via online forms  
Quarter 1 Due Date: November 15, 2014

### Free Webinars Continue...

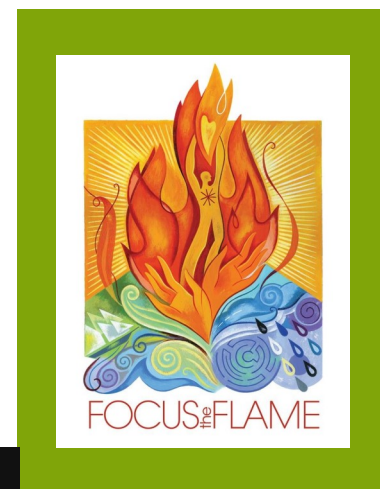
**Date:** November 13, 2014

**Time:** 1:00 – 1:30 PM ET

**Topic:** Saving Face: Preventing Device-Related Pressure Ulcers

**Presenter:** Jennifer Markowitz, RN, BSN, ATC, LAT

**Register [HERE](#) Today**



American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, 101 Columbia, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656-4109

## Reflection

What does our chapter do really well?

+ What does our chapter do only so-so?

+ What hasn't our chapter tried yet that could really benefit our members?

+ What's getting in our way?

= SWOT Analysis

## SWOT Analysis Tool

Strengths

Weaknesses

Opportunities

Threats

Our December issue will feature Chapter Succession & Elections


## Chapter Best Practices Cont...

### Ideas to Increase Chapter Membership

- Have **national membership vouchers** available, so nurses can call to immediately become members and also get a discount at the same time. Offer **group discounts** for chapter membership.
- Have **Hospitality Coordinators**, at the hospital, that work with the educators, ask the hospital to provide career enhancement points for membership.
- **One-on-one invitations. Personally invite** a new person and then introduce them and make them feel comfortable in the group. Host a **"bring a friend" night**. Consider providing free chapter membership to everyone that brings someone.
- **Invite non-members to chapter meetings** where a "hot nursing topic" will be discussed. Include a discussion at that meeting about the benefits of chapter membership and ask those guests to join.
- **Host a "chapter social"**, invite non-members to come and learn about the chapter and the benefits of membership:
  - Closer **connection** to AACN within your community.
  - **Networking** with other nurses.
  - Opportunities to **develop their leadership skills**, which will help them in their nursing careers.
  - **Local educational opportunities.**
  - **Study groups and journal clubs.**
  - Have current chapter members share 1-2 things that they value about their chapter membership (**testimonials**).
- **Host fun outings:** Self-defense class, Wine and Cheese night, Bowling night, Certification/CCRN Study Clubs, Webinar Series – watch as a group, Group night: "How to write a resume" or "How to write a resignation letter," Case Study Night, and don't forget community service projects.
- Collaborate with other professional organizations and attend marketing events.
- **Meet with area nursing leaders** and share with them the benefits of chapter membership, how it can help their organizations and then solicit their help. Ask them to partner with the chapter and encourage their staff to join, provide free meeting space, etc. If there are new techniques and standards, offer to work with the organizations to get the nurses trained.
- Talk about AACN and the benefits of membership **during new RN orientation.**



### Focus the Flame!

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