

One Woman, One Newborn, One Thousand Strong!

Have you told anyone about our great organization lately? Invite a friend or co-worker to your next chapter meeting and let them know about the many educational opportunities we share.

**Gerald Lowe
Virginia Section Chair**



Greetings,

A new year is upon us. I am looking forward to a new year with Virginia AWHONN. Throughout 2014, we will be “In the Pursuit of Excellence.” The mission of AWHONN to promote the health of women and newborns will continue.

I am looking forward to a great year as we pursue excellence. I have been made aware of several regional and chapter conferences and symposiums that will be held throughout the section, please visit our website for more information. The AWHONN National Conference will be held in Orlando, Florida in June. This is a great event for learning, networking, and socializing. This year, the Virginia Section will host its annual conference in Fredericksburg, Virginia, on September 5th and 6th, 2014. It will be a grand time.

We are planning new services that should be available to Virginia members soon. Our website now hosts an employment section that will allow for posting of employment opportunities across the section. In addition, soon we will have a Webinar Library available to all members which will assist in continuing education.

The Virginia Section of AWHONN was a winner of the *Giving Tuesday* fundraising contest for the *Every Woman, Every Baby* Campaign and was awarded a Breastfeeding Evidence Based Guideline. This Guideline will be available to all chapters for membership education.

A year ago, I put forth these goals for the next two years:

- Increase our membership by 20%. This would put us at 1000 members strong to promote the issues of women and children throughout Virginia.
- Establish partnerships within the communities from schools of nursing, retailers, financial institutions, and community services to draw on their resources and to promote our mission.
- Increase the public's awareness of Virginia AWHONN.

Our *One Women, One Newborn, One Thousand Strong* Campaign is still being waged. Our numbers peaked to almost 900 members during 2013 but had a down turn to the present level of 835 members. At 835 members, we are only 165 members away from our goal of 1000 members strong. I am asking all members to encourage any non-member to join AWHONN and reap the benefits of being part of their professional organization. Members that recruit 3 new members in a calendar year will receive a one-year free membership along with other prizes (log on to www.awhonn.org for more information).

VA AWHONN has begun to increase its public awareness around the state. We have started sending a representative to regional meetings, conferences, and symposiums. We are establishing partnerships with other Sections, financial institutions, and schools of nursing. We look forward to more work in the future with other professional organizations.

On behalf of all the leaders of Virginia AWHONN, we look forward to a great year working with you as we are "In Pursuit of Excellence" and promoting the health of women and newborns.

Every Good Wish!!!

Gerald Lowe
Virginia Section Chair

The 2014 Recruitment & Rewards Program

Invite your colleagues to join AWHONN today and be rewarded for your work. You could earn a free AWHONN membership, gift cards and so much more. It couldn't be easier; the more NEW members you recruit, the more prizes you get. Details at www.awhonn.org

Great New Prizes This Year Including

NEW! - Amazon Kindle

NEW! - iPod Shuffle

NEW! - \$25 Gift Cards of your choice

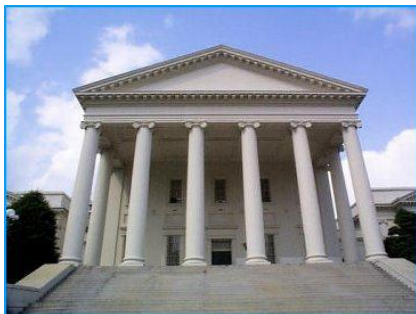
Would you like to win **FREE** registration to the 2014 Virginia Section conference?

Enter the Virginia AWHONN photo contest to replace the image on each of our eight chapter pages on the Virginia AWHONN web site

Photo Submission Rules

- Must be an original photograph taken and submitted by an active AWHONN member (elected and appointed chapter and section leaders are not eligible)
- Must feature subject matter within the boundaries of your chapter
- Only landscape photography will be considered. Any photo that features one or more persons will not be considered
- Photos must be 72 dpi and 4 inches wide or greater to be considered (there is no maximum size limit)
- The winner from each section will be chosen by the officers of the section and their decision will be final
- Submit photos to webmaster@awhonnva.org in jpg, gif or tif format
- Submissions deadline is March 21, 2014

The eight winners will receive free registration to the 2014 Virginia Section conference (a \$135.00 value) and a \$25.00 gift card to Starbucks!



Virginia Chapter Leaders and Updates

Blue Ridge Chapter

Chapter Leader: *Lora Davidson*

We have a meeting scheduled for Feb 27th sponsored by Abbot, presenting on Communication in Health Care: The Power of Words and Breaking through Difficult Behaviors.

Rappahannock Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Laila Arouni*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Tina Jessee*

We are in the planning phase of the Virginia 2014 Annual Conference.

We will need sponsors and vendors to make this state conference a great success! Please contact us with any ideas or have the vendors/sponsors contact us directly at

Rappahannock@awhonnva.org

All help is greatly appreciated!

Jefferson Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Sharon Fickley*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Paula Pippin*

South Central Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Denise Doss*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Felicia Morris*

Richmond Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Nina Beaman*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Kristie Patrick-Austin*

SAVE THE DATE for the Richmond Chapter Mini Conference May 16th and 17th!

Peninsula Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Sharon Easter*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Nancy Jallo*

Tidewater Chapter

Chapter Leader: *Diana Behling*

NOVA/DC Chapter

Chapter Leader: *Lisa Klein*

We are now officially the NoVaDC (Northern Virginia District of Columbia Chapter)! Washington DC has always been a part of the Virginia Section but we are going to make a specific effort to engage our DC resident AWHONN members.

We have an excellent leadership team. Dona Dei will be our contact for our DC membership. Candy Sullivan will be working on our CEU applications. We are getting input from Jennifer Sedlmeyer, Lucy Boland, Barbara Moran, Vicki Korker, Carol Brufat, Betty Connal and Megan Mooney.

As we work to re-energize our NoVaDC chapter, we hope to engage the younger nurses in our area to learn about being part of an exciting professional association.

We are planning two education events before summer. One will be on new antenatal diagnostic technologies and the other on the challenges of working in the current uncertain health, financial and employment environment.

Virginia Section Leaders

Section Leader

Gerald Lowe

Secretary/Treasurer

Jessica Fenton

Webmaster

Kevin Bowser

Public Information Officer

Deanna Daniel

Membership Chair

Jeannette Brown

Nominating Chair

Mary Ann Lucia

**Representative to the Virginia
Breastfeeding Advisory Board**

Cindy Curtis

**Representative to the March
of Dimes and Nominating Chair**

Emily Drake

Did You Know...

Have an event coming up?

- Send details to any leader and we will include it in our next newsletter as well as on the website

Employment Opportunities

- Looking for one? Check out the VA AWHONN website and see what's available
- Have a position you would like to advertise? Send the information to Kevin and have it posted on the VA AWHONN website for all to see!

You could be the AWHONN representative at your school or facility

- VA AWHONN is looking for volunteers to agree to post newsletters and events at their facilities and share the great things AWHONN is doing
- Contact Deanna if you are interested in filling this role, it's easy and you could be instrumental in increasing our membership to 1,000 strong!

Mark Your Calendars...

2014 Perinatal Conference

“Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?”

Achieving quality, safety, and patient satisfaction in an ever changing healthcare climate

April 4, 2014

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center

Roanoke, VA

Richmond Chapter Spring 2014 Mini-Conference

“Gentle Transitions”

May 16, 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm and May 17, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Bryant & Stratton College

8141 Hull Street Rd, North Chesterfield, VA 23235



2014 AWHONN Annual Convention

June 14-18, 2014

Disney Coronado

Orlando, Florida

Virginia Section 2014 Annual Conference

September 5-6, 2014

Fredericksburg Expo & Convention Center

Fredericksburg, Virginia

Newsletter submissions and/or suggestions are always welcome; we want to know what's going on in your chapter.

Contact Deanna Daniel at pio@awhonnva.org