

## “Seas the Moment” and join us for the 2016 Virginia Section Conference at the beach!

**Gerald Lowe**  
Virginia Section Chair



Happy New Year! It is now 2016!! Often in media we see the past year represented as an old grey headed man and the New Year as a neonate. To me that represents our mission as women’s health, obstetric, and neonatal nurse: always helping to bring in the new!

As we ring in a new year, Virginia AWHONN is busy preparing for an exciting year. We have now opened registration for the Virginia AWHONN Section Conference 2016. We will be seeing you at the BEACH, where we will “Seas the Moments.” This year our conference will be in Virginia Beach at the Holiday Inn North Hotel and Suites! We are planning an awesome time with information, evidence-based practice, community service, and some fun at the beach!

AWHONN National will be meeting in Grapevine, Texas at the Gaylord Hotel & Resort outside of Dallas. AWHONN National Conferences are always a grand time but they say it is always bigger in Texas! If you have the opportunity, join us in Grapevine.

Local chapters in Virginia have been tasked to host at least one meeting per quarter. Meetings may be educational, social/networking, or community works. Stay tuned to our website ([www.awhonnva.org](http://www.awhonnva.org)) for upcoming events. We will also provide information of any women’s health, newborn events across the Commonwealth.

Although I am excited about the start of this new year it is bittersweet for me. This summer Virginia AWHONN will hold elections for new section leaders to take office January 1, 2017. All AWHONN members will receive more information from AWHONN National this summer.

As I have said before, if you are involved with VA AWHONN, thank you and please stay involved. If you are not involved, join us and get involved. Once involved, involve others! The health of women and newborns depends on all of us.

Every Good Wish!

Gerald A. Lowe, MSN, RN  
Virginia AWHONN Section Chair

## Virginia Section Leaders

**Section Leader**

*Gerald Lowe*

**Secretary/Treasurer**

*Jessica Fenton*

**Webmaster**

*Kevin Bowser*

**Public Information Officer**

*Deanna Daniel*

**Legislative Chair**

*Nina Beaman*

**Membership Co-Chairs**

*Heather Tackling*

*Kim Edmondson*

**Student Nurse Coordinator**

*Britney Howell*

**VA Maternal Mortality Commission Representative**

*Debbie Levin*

**Section Coordinating Team:** *Gerald Lowe, Jessica Fenton, Deanna Daniel, Britney Howell, Kim Edmondson, Heather Tackling*

## Virginia Chapter Leaders and Updates

**Blue Ridge Chapter**

Chapter Co-Leader: *Heather Freeman*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Kelly Brown*

*Welcome to the new Blue Ridge Chapter Co-Leaders  
Heather Freeman and Kelly Brown!*

**Jefferson Chapter**

Chapter Co-Leader: *Sharon Fickley*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Paula Pippin*

*We will be having a Winter Meeting/Meet and Greet on Thursday,  
February 11<sup>th</sup> at Martha Jefferson Hospital. Please see the calendar  
section of the newsletter for details. Hope to see you there!*

**Rappahannock Chapter**

Chapter Co-Leader: *Liz Forjan*  
Chapter Co-Leader: *Sharon Scott*

**South Central Chapter**

Chapter Leader: *Denise Doss*

*Happy New Year from the South Central Chapter. I hope that 2016 has started off with a big BANG, and everyone is ready to spread AWHONN cheer.*

*We continue to seek volunteers for different leadership roles and embrace any suggestions for meeting topics, locations, and time frames that might encourage an increase in meeting attendance. Please contact Denise at [southcentral@awhonnva.org](mailto:southcentral@awhonnva.org) with any suggestions.*

*Our chapter would like to recognize Shannon Miles, Perinatal Navigator from Centra, on her recent achievement. Shannon was a finalist in the Rising Star Category for the March of Dimes Nurse of the Year Award. Our chapter would like to applaud her efforts in working with Centra's high risk perinatal patients.*

*Information on upcoming chapter events to follow.*

**Tidewater Chapter**

Chapter Leader: *Lenore Giovanelli*

*The Tidewater Chapter is busy working on our 2016 Virginia Section Conference at the beach!*

**Peninsula Chapter**

Chapter Co-Leader: *Abby Webber*  
Chapter Co-Leader: *Brandy Sachau*

**NOVA/DC Chapter**

Chapter Leader: *Lisa Klein*

**Richmond Chapter**

Chapter Co-Leader: *Barbara Gesme*  
Chapter Co-Leader: *Amy Prince*

*Please join us for our next Richmond Chapter meeting on May 18, 2016, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm  
Capital Ale House  
13831 Village Place Drive  
Midlothian, VA 23114*

## Congratulations...



**Emily Drake PhD, RN, FAAN**  
**President-elect**  
**2016 AWHONN Board of Directors**

## Legislative update...

The Legislative Coalition of Virginia Nurses tracks bills related to nursing interests in Virginia. I represent Virginia AWHONN at the meetings as well as serve as the President of LCVN, and was present at the January 9 meeting.

If you want to follow the bills, you can like LCVN on Facebook or ask me to follow bills on specific topics. You can also find information about the bills in Virginia from this website: <http://lis.virginia.gov/> If you want to know who your representative is or contact that person about a bill, use this website:

<http://virginiageneralassembly.gov/>

### **Bills of interest include:**

HB489/SB158--requires sexual assault evidence to be processed

HJ29/HR19--Life begins at conception

SB20--places member of ACOG on medical home advisory council, but not nurses

SB81--curriculum for law enforcement of sexual assaults on campus

SB183--removes prohibition against insurance coverage of abortion

SB248--allows a minor who has been sexually assaulted to be deemed as an adult for evidence recovery

SB264--NPs with 2,000 hours of supervised experience can practice without supervision in medically underserved areas and FQHC

SB265--enhanced compact so nurses can practice in several states--VBON would like us to contact Sen. Dance and offer support--those of us currently with multi-state compact will be grandfathered into new enhanced compact

Also, the Governor has put money in the budget for access to birth control.

The next meeting of LCVN will be Feb. 16 at 4:00 in Richmond. All are welcome to attend. If there is a bill that you want me to gain more information about, please contact me at [Nina.Beaman@aspen.edu](mailto:Nina.Beaman@aspen.edu) and I will have LCVN follow it for you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Nina Beaman, RNC-AWHC

## Mark Your Calendars...

### ***Jefferson Chapter Winter Meeting/Meet & Greet***

Thursday, February 11, 2016, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

**Martha Jefferson Hospital** - Outpatient Care Center, Kessler Conference Room  
595 Martha Jefferson Dr, Charlottesville, VA 22911

Topic: AWHONN webinar: *"Is Six the New Four? Assessing, Defining, and Promoting Progress in Labor"* (1.0 CE provided)

Members are encouraged to bring a non-member to learn more about the benefits of AWHONN membership and meet colleagues. Light refreshments will be served - \$5.00 paid at the door. Please RSVP to Sharon Fickly [skfickley@gmail.com](mailto:skfickley@gmail.com) or Paula Pippin [Paula.pippin@gmail.com](mailto:Paula.pippin@gmail.com) by Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>

### ***2016 Virginia AWHONN Section Conference*** ***"Seas the Moment"***

April 22-23, 2016  
Holiday Inn & Suites North Beach  
3900 Atlantic Avenue  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451



### ***Richmond Chapter Meeting***

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

**Capital Ale House**

13830 Village Place Drive, Midlothian, VA 23114



### ***2016 AWHONN Annual Convention***

June 11-15, 2016

Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center  
Grapevine, TX

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](mailto:pio@awhonnva.org)