



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.

Welcome to Jessica Fenton, our new Virginia Section Secretary/Treasurer

Hi! My name is Jessica Fenton and I am your new Virginia Section Secretary/Treasurer. I have been a member of AWHONN since my student nurse days in 2004 and served as the Blue Ridge Chapter Leader from 2010-2013. I have enjoyed being part of the community that is Virginia AWHONN and I am looking forward to serving you in my new role! A little about myself, I have been married to my wonderful husband, Wes, for 9 years. We have been blessed with our beautiful and spunky daughter, Macie, who turned 2 years old this past summer. We love animals and have a Great Dane named Edwin and a cat named Chloe to round out our family. We love most things outdoors: hiking, biking, water, etc. We live in Southwest Virginia, pretty close to Virginia Tech (yes, we are Hokie fans!).



I graduated with my BSN from Milligan College in 2006 and with my MSN in Nursing Education from Jefferson College of Health Sciences in 2010. I have always known I wanted to work in the Maternal/Child area and have since worked in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and in the Well-born Nursery and Postpartum/Couplet Unit. I currently work for Carilion New River Valley Medical Center in The Birthplace.

I am looking forward to working with Gerald and the rest of our AWHONN team in serving you this next year! Please help spread the word about this great organization and the benefits and resources it provides! Thank you!

Jessica Fenton

Virginia Chapter Leaders and Updates

Blue Ridge Chapter

Chapter Leader: *Lora Davidson*

Please welcome Lora Davidson to her new role as Chapter Leader.

Rappahannock Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Laila Arouni*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Tina Jessee*

2014 Virginia Section Conference Planning is underway. Join us September 5-6, 2014 at the Fredericksburg Expo!

Jefferson Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Sharon Fickley*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Paula Pippin*

There is a meeting planned for November, Department of Health on drug diversion in the clinical setting. The July meeting was sponsored by Abbot Nutrition and new members were welcomed.

Richmond Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Nina Beaman*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Kristie Patrick-Austin*

Myriad sponsored a successful dinner meeting on the BRCA gene. Join us for our Winter Meeting/Mini Conference on December 6-7, contact hours will be offered and you will be close to Williamsburg to get your holiday shopping completed!

NOVA/DC Chapter

Chapter Leader: *Lisa Klein*

Please welcome Lisa Klein as the new chapter leader. Northern Virginia will again be joining with Washington, D.C. as one chapter. Another meeting is planned for the near future.

South Central Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Denise Doss*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Felicia Morris*

6 new members welcomed in 1 month! On Dec 2nd we will be having a soup/supper meeting on community services.

Peninsula Chapter

Chapter Co-Leader: *Sharon Easter*

Chapter Co-Leader: *Nancy Jallo*

Tidewater Chapter

Chapter Leader: *Diana Behling*

Virginia Section Leaders and Updates

Section Leader

Gerald Lowe

One Woman, One Newborn, One Thousand Strong! Membership is currently at 843, only 157 new members from meeting our goal.

Secretary/Treasurer

Jessica Fenton

Welcome Jessica in her new role, she has jumped in feet first with great success already.

Public Information Officer

Deanna Daniel

A few requests have been received to include employment opportunities in the newsletter – the Virginia leadership team met and Kevin has added a page to our VA AWHONN website just for these! Great suggestions, keep them coming.

Membership Chair

Jeannette Brown

Nominating Chair

Mary Ann Lucia

Elections will be held next spring. Leaders may serve for 2 terms, each term is 2 years.

Representative to the Virginia Breastfeeding Advisory Board

Cindy Curtis

The VA Breastfeeding Advisory Committee has sent out a Residency Survey to schools in Virginia that offer residency programs, goals include:

- Identify residency program breastfeeding needs
- Develop an action plan to address gaps in care and program needs
- Integrate breastfeeding curricula into the plan

Representative to the March of Dimes and Nominating Chair

Emily Drake

Webmaster

Kevin Bowser

If you have not visited the VA AWHONN website lately, take a moment to see what's going on. Leaders can have updates and future events posted for all to see.

Holiday Wish

The year is rapidly coming to an end. Soon we will be welcoming in the year 2014! Before that happens, the holiday season is upon us!!! I have always enjoyed the holiday season, from childhood to now it means spending time with my immediate family, extended family, and lots of friends.

As I plan my own holiday season with my family and friends, I think about all the families that have been touched by Virginia AWHONN: parents hearing the first cries of their newborn, nervous parents taking their pre-term newborn home from the NICU, mothers receiving reassurance from the postpartum nurse and even the grieving parents dealing with demise.

Many families will be enjoying this holiday season because of the work you do and your commitment to your profession with your support of AWHONN. On behalf of myself and all the leaders of VA AWHONN, I say, "thank you" and wish you all a wonderful holiday season! I look forward to 2014 as we will be in pursuit of excellence!!!!

Gerald Lowe
Section Chair

Did You Know...

On your way to Baby-Friendly?

- The Virginia Breastfeeding Advisory Committee is working with the VDH to organize a Virginia's Maternity Care Quality Improvement Collaborative meeting to be held in the Short Pump area next spring. The goal is to increase the number of Baby-Friendly designated hospitals throughout the Commonwealth.
- How can AWHONN as an organization look at being Baby-Friendly and supporting the WHO Code?

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 Deanna or Kevin and have it posted on the VA AWHONN website for all to see!

Have an event coming up?

- Send Deanna the details and we will include it in our next newsletter.
- Deanna can only send out AWHONN events to the member email distribution list, but other events can be included in the newsletter as well as posted on our VA AWHONN website through Kevin.

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...

Richmond Chapter Winter 2013 Mini-Conference

December 6, 5:45 pm to 9:00 pm and December 7, 9:30 am to 12:45 pm

Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing

Richmond, Virginia

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

2014 AWHONN Annual Convention

June 14-18, 2014

Disney Coronado

Orlando, Florida

Virginia 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