PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Take this time to reflect upon what really matters to you: your loved ones, your community, your colleagues, your patients and their families. And I challenge you to think about how we as nurses can best bring our healing to a world in need of understanding, tolerance and compassionate care.

Clareen Wiencek, PhD, RN, ACNP, ACHPN, AACN President

These were the words of our organization’s President, Clareen Wiencek, in a letter that was distributed amongst our members, and posted online, in regards to some of the disheartening events dominating the summer’s headlines. This year’s AACN theme is “It Matters”. I think this rings particularly true this year. The summer has already come and gone. Children are back at school. And dare I say, the holidays are right around the corner as well. As our social environment changes and our families grow, I think it is good to sit back, take a deep breath and think of what the “It” in “It Matters” means to us. There is no “right” or “wrong” to that question. What is “wrong” is not to address and stand up for what matters to you. So what matters to you??

I believe that our chapter answers that question by the programming that we provide our members. But what else matters to YOU?? During our transition meeting, we were trying to come up with ways of better serving you and what matters to you. We hope we will be accomplishing that this year, but please know we are open to input as well.

What is important to us is giving back to the community. On October 1, 2016 from 9-11 am, we will be volunteering at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) located at 1072 National Parkway, Schaumburg, IL. Go to the website (fmsc.org) and register under our group name “NWCAC AACN”. If you are not familiar with this organization, it was founded in 1987 and is a Christian non-profit organization in which volunteers hand pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. These meals are then sent around the world to be use in orphanages, school, clinics and feeding programs in hopes to stop the cycle of poverty. We would love for you to join us as we give back to our community. If you have other volunteer opportunities to share, please let us know.

One aspect of our chapter that we will be rejuvenating is our Awards and Scholarships program. Like everyone else, we experienced a lull in our attendance at chapter meetings and Midwest Conference when our country and hospitals were in a financial bind. We were forced to stop the
Awards and Scholarship program due to lack of funds. However, we have been fortunate enough with your continued support for our chapter and programs to be able to reward our members for all the volunteering you do in our committees. This is our way of letting you know that YOU matter! The details are being worked out now, but be on the lookout for more information soon as our year begins.

With that being said, we are still looking for a Program coordinator for our chapter to help plan our quarterly education sessions. So, if you are interested, please let us know. On a personal note, I have been a part of this organization for quite a few years as Secretary and now as President. Being a part of the board has been a huge learning experience for me, as I have never been a part of an organization at this particular capacity. As I have stepped into the role as President last year and now this year, I have had an increased sense of responsibility to each of you. I don’t want to disappoint you and I want this chapter to be more successful every year. It has become personal. I have thoroughly enjoyed each member of my board and could not have the success we have without them. These are an amazing group of people and I am truly fortunate. I want us to build upon this solid structure that we have now. As time passes, like in any job, people get tired and lose the love for what they do. I do not want this to happen to my board. I want them to be able to say, “I loved being a part of NWCAC’s board”. The only way I can do that is to look for fresh eyes and minds to help keep our chapter as successful and vibrant as it currently is. So, if you have the slightest bit interest please let us know. Plus, there is some financial incentive to join us now.

I hope to see each and every one of you at our September 10th meeting at Northwest Community Hospital!

Cynthia Bender, APN-CNP
President NWCAC-AACN

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**NWCAC CHARITY INFO**

**Feed My Starving Children**

Founded in 1987, Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian non-profit organization committed to feeding God’s children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple: volunteers hand-pack meals specially formulated for malnourished children, and then send them to partners around the world where they’re used in orphanages, schools, clinics and feeding programs to break the cycle of poverty. FMSC has reached more than 70 countries.

We are planning on getting a group from NWCAC to participate in this volunteer project. We have reserved Saturday, October 1st from 9:00—11:00 AM at the Schaumburg location. Bring your family and friends, all are welcome to join us! You can sign up to join the NWCAC group by going to:

http://volunteer.fmsc.org/Register/site/FindGroupSearchResults.aspx?mode=5&j=&l=&n=nwcac&m=0&command=SearchForJoinPermanent&fn=&ln=#.VytQ0sg8KJJ

**WANTED**

We still have a couple of positions on the board to fill for 2016-2017. We still need a program Chair and President-Elect. If you are at all interested or just want to find out more about what’s involved, please email any of the board members and we will be glad to talk and let you know when we are meeting again. We would love to see some new faces with some new ideas!! We can’t continue to run the successful chapter educational programs that we have without your help!! Consider being “Courageous” and stepping out of your comfort zone and getting involved! “IT MATTERS!!”

**HELP WANTED!**
NWCAC EDUCATIONAL OFFERING
Saturday, September 10, 2016
7:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Agenda
7:30—Breakfast and Networking
8:00—General Chapter Meeting and Educational Program

Location
Northwest Community Hospital
Classrooms 1-6/1-7 (Across from the Auditorium)
800 Central Rd.
Arlington Heights, IL

Topics
“Pediatric Epilepsy: Understanding the Little Brain”
By Elizabeth Fevold, APN

“End of Life Care In The Critical Care Setting”
By Jennifer Pope, MSN, RN, CHPN

“HELLP Syndrome in Critically Ill OB Patients”
By Lena Akelian, RN, MS

No Registration Required
Free Parking
Continental Breakfast Provided

Free for all NWCAC-AACN Members and $30.00 for non-members

For further information contact
Linda Smith at lindacdhrn@aol.com
Directions to the Chapter Meeting

This month’s meeting is located in rooms 1-6/1-7 located across from the Auditorium. Enter through the East Entrance 4. Go to your right and follow the corridor past the Oasis Food Court until you reach the Auditorium. The Rooms are on the left across from the Auditorium.
SAVE THE DATE
SAT Oct 15th 2015
AACN Region 10
Annual Fall Meeting

New Location
Presence Resurrection Medical Center
7447 West Talcott Ave
Chicago Il.

Continuing with the Sat Format
(Plenty of time for traveling, networking and sightseeing)

New Host Chapter this year
(AM GCAC Chapter Program/PM Regional Meeting)

Mark your calendars     Book your hotel

Region 10 is getting together!!
Please feel free to contact me for hotel recommendations

Elaina  cateschnoebelen@gmail.com
Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 10, 2016
*Educational Meeting at NWC Hospital*
8am-12 noon
(see page 4 for details)

Saturday, October 1, 2016
“Feed My Starving Children”
Volunteer Opportunity
9am-11 am
Schaumburg Location
(see page 3 for details)

Saturday, October 15, 2016
Region 10 Annual Meeting
Presence Resurrection Medical Center
(see page 6 for details)

Saturday, November 12, 2016
*Educational Meeting at NWC Hospital*
8am-12 noon
Topics to be announced

Thursday & Friday, March 23 & 24, 2017
2017 Midwest Conference
Eaglewood Resort and Spa
Itasca, IL

May 22-25, 2017
NTI
Houston, Texas

Saturday, June 10, 2017
*Educational Meeting at NWC Hospital*
8am-12 noon
Topics to be announced

(BOD meetings are held the Wednesday prior to the Saturday meeting at Northwest Community Hospital, Critical Care Classroom, 6:30PM)
2016-2017 BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

NWCAC CHAPTER OFFICERS

Cynthia Bender, APN-CNP
PRESIDENT

Jodi Gunther, RN, MS, CCRN
SECRETARY

Julie Shurba, RN, MHA,
CCRN
TREASURER

Kathy Voss, RN, BSN, CCRN
TREASURER ELECT

Linda Smith, MS, RN, CCRN
MIDWEST CONFERENCE CHAIR

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Kirsten Howe, RN, BSN,
CCRN
MEMBERSHIP

RoseMary Pieniazek, RN, BSN
MEDIA RELATIONS
NEWSLETTER

Jenny Zaker, RNC, EdM APN
MARKETING/HEALTH
POLICY LEGISLATION

Rosina Grande, RN, MS,
CCRN, CGRN, CMSRN
HOSPITALITY

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (cont)

Ivonne Avita, RN, BSN
BOARD LEARNING
PARTNER

Alex Thomas, RN, BSN
BOARD LEARNING
PARTNER

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