ARN REACH Conference 2017

Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) held their Annual Conference, in Seattle WA, November 8-11, 2017. The Florida Chapter (FSARN) was well represented. Ina Fletcher and Pat Quigley, ARN Directors, arrived early to attend board meetings and set the tone for the conference. There were several pre-conference sessions including Nursing Leadership attended by Sue Brown. Several of the FSARN Board had the opportunity to attend the Chapter Leaders Reception, followed by the Grand Opening and Presentation of Awards. Cynthia Hernandez, FSARN President, was the recipient of the Educator Award. Many of the FSARN members converged at the ARN booth to meet up with other Florida attendees including Kevin Glennon, who was manning the One Call Medical booth in the exhibit hall. (CONT’D-PAGE 2)
The exhibit hall also included 130+ posters including submissions from FSARN members providing education on a variety of topics.

The keynote speaker, Rich Bluni, RN, talked about the Inspired Nurse and gratitude. Rich, once worked at Pinecrest Rehab in Delray Beach, FL and encouraged all of us to think about our "stories," and start telling them. The theme of telling your story was echoed throughout the entire conference. Jeremy Scott, ARN Health Policy Liaison, also encouraged rehabilitation nurses to "tell their stories," to their policy makers and to have a voice.

One of the highlights for me was a panel discussion on the Future of Rehabilitation Nursing, the panel included 2 young nurses and one experienced nurse, all of whom were new to rehabilitation nursing. It was very enlightening, the panel members all were very engaged and their message was that rehabilitation nursing is very rewarding, and, and one of the best kept secrets! All of them were unaware of the specialty as an option. The two young nurses stumbled upon it during clinical rotations while in nursing school as clinical sites for behavioral health and med-surg were limited and acute rehabilitation settings were utilized for those areas. The experienced nurse, chose a rehabilitation managerial job based on the location when moving cross-country. All agreed that they have fallen in love with the specialty practice of rehabilitation nursing and encouraged all of us to get involved with schools of nursing and tell our stories to encourage new nurses to consider rehabilitation nursing.

The education and networking opportunities were tremendous and enjoyed by all. There was something for everyone. The Tampa VA was well represented by Cindy Hernandez, Ann Wilson and Lisa Duncan who participated in the VA Special Interest Group. FSARN and the Broward District (BARN) provided scholarships for several members to attend. It was very inspiring to see Yolanda Mora, BARN scholarship recipient and first time attendee at the conference. She couldn't get enough of the educational sessions and even attended the CRRN Test Preparation Sessions! Hopefully, she will be in attendance at the 2018 ARN Conference in West Palm Beach, FL and stand up as one of the New CRRNs!

To be sure, it was not all work and no play! The Florida Chapter Members enjoyed some of Seattle's local attractions including Pike's Market and the waterfront. Throughout the conference, FSARN members spent time with one another and got a chance to tell their stories of strength, courage and the human spirit, and when coupled with the expertise of a Professional Rehabilitation Nurse; the possibilities are endless!

submitted by
Sue Brown, FSARN

One of the “Gems” from the 2017 ARN REACH Conference.

Cindy Hernandez, MSN/Ed.,RN, CRRN FSARN President
2018 FSARN CONFERENCE

CALL FOR POSTERS

2018 Florida State Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Annual Educational Conference
“Rehab Nurses…the Force is Strong with You”

May 2-4, 2018

Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Resort
Orlando, FL

The deadline for submission is March 30, 2018

Please consider submitting an abstract related to rehabilitation nursing to the FSARN conference. The conference provides an opportunity to present your work within an atmosphere of support from peers. All posters must identify a primary presenter/author that will receive all communication. If the primary author is unable to attend, another author may present the poster at the conference. The primary author will submit an abstract. Notification will be sent to the primary author to confirm acceptance of the poster to the conference.

Submit all information to: ann.wilson@va.gov

Join the gang at the FSARN Conference.

Make sure to dress as your favorite Star Wars
FSARN Fall 2017
Leadership Forum

FSARN Leadership

The Broward District held the Fall Leadership Forum entitled “Leading to Succeed,” on October 14th at Memorial Rehabilitation Institute. The forum was originally scheduled for September 16th, but Hurricane Irma came to town...However, the rehabilitation nurses showed their resilience and rebounded with an attendance of 40+ nurses! Resiliency in leadership was the theme of the opening speaker Dr. Rose Sherman, Editor in Chief of Nurse Leader. Mary-Helen Day told us about “Leading with Love,” and Robin Star, MSW shared some remarkable patient stories with us that reminded us that empathy is the cornerstone of leadership. Robin also provided a tour of the rehab unit for several of the attendees following a great lunch that was sponsored by Regal Home Services.

The afternoon session started with a brief overview of the ARN provided by ARN Director Ina Fletcher, followed by a presentation on the Ethical Issues Impacting Case Managers with Dr. Ann-Lynn Denker from the University of Miami Bio-Ethics Program. One of the remarkable benefits of the forum was the collegiality—many of the attendees and the speakers had a history of working together 20+ years ago. It was like old home day! We were also fortunate to have a new graduate nurse in attendance, she came along with her aunt, a long-time member of FSARN. I’d like to think that she got a good sense of the benefits of belonging to a professional nursing organization. I know that the BARN members welcomed her with open arms and provided encouragement and resources for her.

Vendor support included Coloplast, NeuLife Rehab, Strive, University of West Florida and the VoiceNews. Thank you to BARN President Ellen Ortu, President-elect Peggy Rosier, Treasurer Ina Fletcher, and FSARN Past President Donna Bagley for their tremendous assistance with organizing this program. Future leadership forums are in the works and will be posted on the FSARN website when scheduled.

2018 Association of Rehabilitation Nurses Southeast Regional Conference

April 9th and 10th Orange Beach, Alabama
DISTRICT INFORMATION

**Broward Association Rehabilitation Nurses (BARN)**
President: Peggy Rosier
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 5:30p-7:00p
Contact: [http://www.browardarn.org/about.html](http://www.browardarn.org/about.html)

**Central Florida**
President: Lydia Hendrix
Meetings: 3rd Friday of the month, 11:00a
Contact: [http://www.cfarn.org/](http://www.cfarn.org/)

**Northeast**
President: Jim Edwards
Meetings: **Live Meeting** 4th Monday of the month, January through October, 5:00p-7:00p
**Virtual Meetings** Members may participate in meeting remotely using virtual technology via smart phone or computer
Contact: (904) 345-7625 or [james.edwards@brooksrehab.org](mailto:james.edwards@brooksrehab.org).

**West Coast**
President: Dawn Etman
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 5:00p-7:00p (exception-August-3rd Tuesday of the month)
Contact: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/785409978222381/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/785409978222381/)

**2017-2019 Board Members and Committee Chairs**

**Board Members**
President: Cynthia Hernandez
President-Elect: James Edwards
Recording Secretary: Anabel Velazquez
Treasurer: Peggy Rosier
Corresponding Secretary: Ellen Ortu
Nominations Chair: Denyce Bensen
Past President: Donna Bagley

**Committee Chairs**
Advisory Board: Colleen Balestrieri
Bylaws: Grisel Burgos
CE Application: Kathy Sobczak
Conference Liaison: James Edwards
Finance: Marty Bassett
Historian: Lisa Duncan
Membership: Suk Tomlinson
Leadership: Sue Brown
National Health care Policy: Ina Fletcher
Communique: Lisa Duncan
Scholarship: Brook Jimenez
CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!

Cynthia Hernandez, MSN/Ed. RN CRRN
Nurse Educator Award

The Nurse Educator Award recognizes a nurse who has contributed to the advancement of rehabilitation nursing care through an academic or educational role.

Cynthia has the ability to search out the best educational resources and current research studies, and to work with the interdisciplinary team to enhance current practice as well as implement best practices that will improve the lives of the veterans under her watch.
Upcoming Events: Educational Offerings

The IMPACT Act Course: Evidence-Based Interventions to Improve Outcomes

February 16-17, 2018
Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore
Tampa, FL

Register Now at rehabnurse.org/events

Early Bird Rate through 1/19/2018
Member $299
Non Member $429

Regular Rate
Member $349
Non Member $479

Schedule:
Day 1 – Friday, February 16 1–6 pm
Day 2 – Saturday, February 17 8:30 am–3 pm

This 2-day course will describe how the components of the IMPACT Act has changed reporting for post-acute care (PAC) settings as well as the mandatory reporting quality measures for care delivery and documentation. This interactive course will allow you to learn from experts in rehabilitation nursing and improve quality patient care.

Florida Conferences 2018

Broward Association of Rehab Nurses (BARN) Presents:
Rehab Update 2018: A Celebration of Rehab Nurses Through the Ages

March 2, 2018 7:30am to 4:45pm
Signature Grand located at 6900 State Road 84 in Davie, FL 33317
Register online: www.browardARN.org
6 CE for nursing, CCM, CDMS, and CRC
$60 members and $90 non-members
Get the most out of your FSARN Membership.

- Volunteer to work in your district or FSARN.
- Network with some wonderful rehab nurses
- Becoming active in your professional organization is an opportunity to grow in your profession
- Promote rehabilitation nursing.

Contact FSARN or a local chapter if interested

Florida State Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  http://www.fsarn.org/

For more information regarding FSARN, contact Ina Fletcher at inafletcher@comcast.net.

Like us on FACEBOOK

If you want to be added to our email list, please go to the FSARN Website and click on the "Join Our Email" link. Here you will be added directly to our email mailing list.

Thank you,