

DISTRICT DIRECTION

Newsletter of Summit and Portage District, Ohio Nurses Association

Fall and Winter 2021

NEWS & FEATURES



1 President's Message

2 Treasurer's Report

2 District Election

3 New Members



4 Convention Update

5 Healthcare Disparities

A review of the November 17
District meeting



5 Haven of Rest Outreach

5 "Am I Dying?"

A preview of the March 16,
2022 District meeting



6 Celebrate, Reward, and
Retire



President's Message

By Katherine S. Cottrill, MSN, RN, RN-BC-MS, CNRN



Thanks to everyone who participated as a delegate during the 2021 ONA convention!

I was very pleased to see everyone in person. Those of you who were not present at convention may not have heard of some of the votes that passed during the House of Delegates sessions. I'm going to include some highlights from convention.

The collective bargaining and non-collective bargaining units are going to enter mediation and will decide whether or not the ONA will split into two separate arms.

The delegates also decided that ONA will place safe staffing as a priority issue that needs addressed immediately.

Finally, delegates voted to take strides in reducing racial discrimination. More information about convention can be found on ONA Connect.

The SPDONA Board has decided to assist our PSNA members in sponsoring a safe staffing billboard that will be located in Akron. We feel very strongly about making sure our fellow nurses' concerns are heard by the general public. We all know the stress that each of you are feeling by working understaffed during such an unprecedented time.

Lastly, SPDONA held an in-person meeting November 17 at the Sheraton Suites in Cuyahoga Falls to learn about healthcare disparities.

Thank you for being members of our professional nursing association. Until next time.

Kate

Treasurer's Report

Credits reflect monies collected by interest, dues, and donations.

Debits include wages, storage unit, telephone, and supplies. In addition, the District was pleased to assist elected delegates in attending ONA Convention by providing a location to meet and the Sheraton, and meals.

This report reflects the district's daily operations. Funds reside in two banks and are invested in Certificates of Deposit, an interest-bearing money market account, and an interest-bearing checking account.

Debra Meredith, Treasurer

Balance June 30, 2021	\$ 65,307.46
Credits - July 2021	+ 3,303.01
August 2021	+ 3,350.68
September 2021	+ 3,366.56
October 2021	+ <u>4,262.53</u>
	79,590.24
Debits - July 2021	- 2,411.09
August 2021	- 2,154.17
September 2021	- 5,424.02
October 2021	- <u>12,878.55</u>
Balance October 31, 2021	\$ 56,722.41



Happy Holidays!

DISTRICT ELECTION IS APPROACHING...

NOMINEES ARE REQUESTED.

The Committee on Nominations elected in the spring of this year consists of Chair Jean Kaminski, Marie Cinalli, Deb Baker Loyd, Debbie Meredith, and Linda Riazi-Kermani. They are seeking candidates for Vice President, Secretary, 2 Directors, and 5 members for the next Committee on Nominations. Board positions have a term of 2 years beginning in May of 2022 until May of 2024. Nominating Committee has a term of one year. The ballot has been revised. If you wish to be a candidate for 2 positions like Nominating Committee and Director, you need only fill out one form and mark your interest appropriately. Duties of the positions are included also. If you are interested, please complete the consent form included with this newsletter on page 6 and return by email spdona@juno.com or mail to SPDONA * P.O. Box 3255 *Cuyahoga Falls Oh 44223. Election will take place in March, hopefully (epidemic willing) at a face to face meeting at the Sheraton. Remote voting may also be requested. Board will be inducted at the May Annual Meeting.

Board of Directors 2021-2022

President - Kate Cottrill

Vice President - Deborah Angel Baker Loyd

Secretary - Linda Riazi-Kermani

Treasurer - Debra Meredith

Directors

Marie Cinalli

Jean Kaminski

Nancy McManus

Hannah Myers

The terms of the italicized members expire in May of 2022

WELCOME

....to your professional nursing organization. Our membership is currently at 914. As a member of the Summit and Portage District, ONA you can enjoy the collegiality of registered nurses in the two county area, experience the satisfaction of expanding health care to the general public through screenings at health and county fairs, earn contact hours free of charge through district programming and through district reimbursement of ONA offerings, and have a voice in the discussion of the nursing profession through the opportunity to participate in the Ohio Nurses Association Biennial Convention. Through the Ohio Nurses Association your benefits are many as well —continuing education events, publications, a voice with legislators. Also, if you are employed at a participating agency, you may have the backing of a bargaining unit. We welcome new members and encourage you to participate in meetings and outreach screenings, read the publications available, and vote in district and state elections.

** Indicates those non collective bargaining.

BreJanne Ball	Karen Mandih
Lisa Bridle **	Armani Moss
Barbara Buehner **	Jordan Neeley
JaOnteria Childs	Hakim Nuru **
Patricia DePina Law **	Katie Poorman **
Marisa Duff	Robin Pongracz
Sarah Fetters	Rachel Smith
Angela Johnson **	Emily St. Jean
Kabita Lingden-Subb	Brooklyn Sullivan
Megan McClung	Ryan Swallen **
David McNair **	Aimee Weaver **

Building Bridges Virtually: Convention 2021

by Hannah Myers

ONA Convention 2021 took place October 5th and 6th with the theme of 'building bridges'. SPDONA delegates met at the Sheraton in Cuyahoga Falls to attend the first virtual ONA convention. Members could also attend virtually (yes, virtually attend a virtual meeting). Opportunities were also available to build camaraderie, with members staying at the hotel, wine glass painting, and enjoying dinner together.

Over the course of convention, elections were held, voting occurred during the House of Delegates, and district caucuses allowed for discussion. As a first time attendee, I was thrilled to finally meet other SPDONA members in person. I very much enjoyed speaking with other nurses and learning about their professional backgrounds. Being 8 months pregnant at the convention, I also very much enjoyed being accommodated with a comfortable chair and the positive encouragement of my peers! *(Editor's note: Hannah has since welcomed a beautiful baby girl.)*

While every motion discussed was meaningful, motion #2 carried a lot of weight for future conventions: I move that all proposed bylaws dealing with structure be postponed indefinitely. I think a sigh of relief came from across all of ONA that decisions about restructuring districts and dividing the organization between union and non-union would be made at a time when members could meet in person.

Our district is flourishing with participation at the state level and I am proud to be a member of such an engaged group. Congratulations to our award and election winners!

Outstanding Local Unit Leader Award: Amy Law

Nominating Committee: Connie Stopper

Board Unstructured: Barbara McGhee

Board structured: Deborah Angel Baker-Loyd, Barbara McGee, Marie Cinalli

ANA Membership Assembly: Deborah Angel Baker-Loyd, Marie Cinalli, Kelly Lee

AFT Delegate: Deborah Baker Angel-Loyd, Barbara McGhee, Kelly Lee, June Adams, Marie Cinalli, Deb Meredith

AFL CIO delegate: Barbara McGhee, Kelly Lee



The Convention Experience 2021

by Marie Cinalli

On October 5th and 6th I had the honor to represent the district at the biennial convention of ONA. Although it was held virtually, our Summit and Portage District decided to meet in person.

At other conventions there was always a fun activity so Debbie Baker and I planned a wine glass painting party the evening before. We brought in a professional crafter to instruct us on painting pumpkins and fall themes on the stemless glasses. We found out that a lot of nurses have some artistic talent also!

Each night we met at an outdoor patio supporting some other local restaurants. This gave us an opportunity to hear the thoughts of the delegates regarding the reference proposals. There were many discussions about the ONA becoming two entities - bargaining and non-bargaining. It felt like the consensus, at least from our delegates, was that from everyone's experiences that we worked well together.

The beautiful library room and the delicious meals provided by the Sheraton really made it special! It was wonderful to see everyone face-to-face and still be able to social distance.

Even though we had a great experience we look forward to meeting with everyone throughout the state in person at the next convention! Please stay safe everyone.



"Healthcare Disparities within Summit and Portage District" was the topic of the nursing continuing professional development program at SPDONA's dinner meeting held on November 17 at the Sheraton Suites. The speaker was Kristen DeBois, whose PhD is from KSU's College of Public Health and whose Master's degree is in Public Health from Akron U. She is currently a research coordinator at KSU's College of Nursing and serves as adjunct faculty at Walsh University and NEOMED. Dr. DeBois provided an overview of what health disparities are and what are some of the associated contributing factors. Her focus was on northeast Ohio and specifically Summit and Portage counties. She drew her information from the latest community health needs assessments done in each county. She described dimensions of health before care, access to care, and healthcare delivery, all of which influence healthcare inequities in our region. Dr. DeBois helped us all to examine cultural, societal, and economic issues that play a role in whether our patients come to us for care or not and whether they can/will comply with our plan of care for them. Her presentation was insightful and very well-received.

Submitted by Nancy McManus



SPDONA Reaches Out to the Community

Haven of Rest and Harvest Home have been the beneficiaries once again of the generosity of SPDONA members. The district was able to present over two hundred dollars and bags of needed food and linens to this organization which serves the homeless in our area. Should you wish to contribute, you might find information here <http://www.havenofrest.org/ways-to-give> Some of the items they request

are: All-day Metro Bus Passes, Hot Chocolate Mix, New White Towels for Shelter Showers, Baby Orajel for Teething Babies, Men's P.J.'s – Tops & Bottoms, Various Sizes, Boy's Slippers, Men's Shaving Cream, New Toy Action Figures, Men's Spray Deodorant – Regular & Large Sizes, Newer Gaming System for 4+ Players for Children at Harvest Home, Men's Disposable Razors, Baby Powder, Hair Brushes, AAA Batteries, Tomato Sauce, Lysol Spray, Snack Items for Packed Lunches.



"Am I Dying?"

Have you ever had a conversation with a patient or family given a difficult diagnosis or prognosis? Why is it so difficult or uncomfortable to talk with patients/family about serious news or critical information? The next nursing continuing professional development program entitled

"Am I Dying?" The Nurse's Response:

Engaging Communication in Serious and Terminal Illness'

will be presented by Maryjo Prince-Paul, PhD, MSN, RM, FPCN on Wednesday, March 16, 2022. She will present several strategies to help us communicate serious news more effectively, whether the patient/family is in denial or despair and or you want to minimize or strategize with them. This is information we all need whether we work with adults, children, or infants in critical care, ED, oncology/palliative care, gerontology, or home care. Save the date and join us at SPDONA's next dinner meeting on March 16, 2022 at the Sheraton Suites in Cuyahoga Falls.

GCNA Celebration!

By Nancy McManus



On Saturday December 4, four SPDONA members (Karen Budd, Nancy McManus, Linda Riazzi-Kermani, and Connie Stopper) attended the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Greater Cleveland Nurses Association where they enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with friends and colleagues. We were able to reconnect with nurses we've worked with in the Cleveland healthcare setting, with past students we've encouraged and educated, with nursing faculty who trained us, and with ONA Convention delegates from recent and past conventions. We enjoyed reminiscing with everyone and were astounded by

the historical remembrances presented by GCNA members. There was also a tribute to Isabel Hampton Robb whom we remembered hearing about in nursing school - as President of what would become the ANA, she was the first to advocate for organization for nurses in the late 1890's. The GCNA celebration concluded with cake and an anniversary champagne toast. All in all, it was a lovely celebration of "100 years and beyond".

DISTRICT AWARDS

After an unexpected hiatus of two years, District recognitions are once again scheduled to be awarded at the Summit and Portage District, Ohio Nurses Association Annual Meeting in May. Dottie Marsh Health Policy Award acknowledges outstanding work in the political area. Barbara Mims Distinguished Nurse Award recognizes a district member who displays exemplary work in Health care areas. The Jeanette Wooding Service Award will name a nurse member who is active in the professional organization. Applications may be found on the district's website <http://spadona.org/awards>

Thank You. . . .

.. For the opportunity to work alongside professionals dedicated to providing quality nursing care to Summit and Portage Counties. Thank you for allowing me to develop organizational skills that I have never felt comfortable with and to utilize creativity in approaching new challenges. After approximately 35 years, I will be retiring as Executive Assistant of Summit and Portage District, ONA at the end of the year. I have worked closely with at least 11 Presidents whose education ranged from PhD to diploma and whose experience ranged from many years to recently graduated. The membership when I began was 325. Current membership flirts with 1,000! Current treasury hovers a bit over \$150,000! My original title was Office Manager which moved to Executive Assistant to make me feel better in a year where there was not even enough in the budget to warrant a cost of living raise but included a lot more work as members found it difficult to find time to do committee work which then moved to office responsibilities. This, however, offered the opportunity to get to know more members and hear their stories. The years have been good, the individuals have been good, but the time has come to wish you all the best of luck and say good-bye.

Fondly, Suzanne Roach