

RN NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN RADIOLOGICAL NURSES ASSOCIATION

AUGUST, 2000
VOLUME 5
NUMBER 3

THE DEADLINE
FOR SUBMITTING
INFORMATION
FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE IS
September 23, 2000

SEE OUR
LATEST FEATURE

RADIOLOGY
NURSE
HELPLINE

THROW OUT A LINE IF
YOU HAVE A
PROBLEM OR
QUESTION THAT
YOU WOULD LIKE
TO ADDRESS TO AN
OPEN FORUM. IT
WILL BE PRINTED IN
RN News AND YOU
HAVE YOUR ARNA
COLLEAGUES AS A
CAPTIVE AUDIENCE!
email (OK, use snail
mail if you wish) your
issues, questions,
problems or concerns to
Helen O'Daly, Editor,
RN News. See address
on page 3.

ARNA PRESIDENT RESPONDS

Legs For Life™

Thank you Cathy Ware for asking about this in the last RN NEWS. Legs for Life™ is a community-based screening program for PVD (Peripheral Vascular Disease). This program will make interventional radiology more visible and help educate people with leg pain to identify potential disease. Thanks to Dixon Johnson we now have this on our Web Page. This disease affects an estimated 8,000,000 Americans annually. When untreated, consequences are significant including claudication, impaired quality of life, limb loss and increased risk of coronary death.

National Legs for Life™ week is coming up again, September 17 to 23 but you do not have to run your program this week only. To set up a screening program you need a physician that is a SCVIR member and \$500.00. After you register, SCVIR will provide you with information on how to run the program. I would ask your administrator if the hospital would be interested in running the program. If you would like more information please check the ARNA web page (www.arna.net). Also, there was an article in the last issue of *Images* (Summer, 2000) pages 18 & 19 that will give you more information. Also included in the article is an easy to follow step-by-step guide for calculating the Ankle/Brachial Index (ABI).

Sincerely, Patricia Doohan, RN
ARNA President

RSNA TIME IS COMING!!!!

Yes, it's almost that time again, time to pack your bags and head out to Chicago for ARNA's 19th Annual Meeting and Education Program. To quote from the brochure, "ARNA's educational program has a variety of exciting topics to be presented, including new radiological procedures and updates on current procedures. The presentations will assist everyone, from the new to the experienced radiology nurse, to learn information to take back to their individual practices." The program will take place from November 26-27, 2000 at McCormick Place in Chicago. RSNA (the Radiological Society of North America) holds its annual Scientific Program at the same time, running until December 1, 2000 and provides a multitude of displays of the latest equipment used in Radiology as part of an in depth educational experience. If you haven't yet received registration materials, call the ARNA office at (630) 571-9072.

- submitted

by Helen O'Daly

committee news

WANTED: ITEM WRITERS FOR THE CERTIFICATION EXAM

-submitted by Kathleen Gross, BSN, RN,C, CRN,
Secretary, ARNA

If you want a way to contribute to ARNA, item writing could be the answer. The Radiologic Nursing Certification Board (RNCB) is looking for highly motivated individuals who are interested in writing questions for the certification exam. No previous experience is necessary. Information about item writing is provided by the Professional Testing Corporation (PTC). Support and guidance is available through the RNCB. Questions submitted are reviewed biannually by a committee for validity, accuracy and appropriateness. Tests are composed by PTC and then reviewed and edited by the RNCB.

Item writing is an excellent means to contribute to ARNA as you can work around your schedule and personal needs. Designing questions helps increase one's knowledge about Radiology. It also helps stimulate interest in learning the latest information about Radiology Nursing.

Become a *Star of ARNA* and receive professional recognition by a nationally recognized specialty nursing organization. Add this skill to your personal resume as well.



For more information contact:
Dixon Johnson, Chair RNCB
Phone (W) 858-549-6133
Fax: (W) 858-549-6125
E-mail: dixonj@home.com

or

Kathleen Gross, Secretary and Liaison to
RNCB

Phone: (W) 410-828-2311
Fax: (W) 410-828-2860
E-mail: kagross@home.com

Or the ARNA office for more information
Phone: 630-571-9072
Fax: 630-571-7837
E-mail: arna@rsna.org

SO.... LET'S GET TO THE CORE:

Core Curriculum Committee that is!!!

We need a few great volunteers to work on the Core Curriculum Committee. Goals of the Committee include development of a strategic plan for the evolution and marketing of the future **second** edition of the Core Curriculum.

So....don't shy away from this challenging committee membership and the opportunity to contribute to ARNA at the national level. You would not, at this time, be committing to authorship. We need your expert feedback and you are the **experts!**

If you are interested in helping, please contact:
Colleen M. Sasso via e-mail: CMSasso@aol.com

Sasso.colleenm@sanfrancisco.va.gov
Or by phone: 650-878-2885 (home)
415-221-4810 ext. 3576 (work)

-submitted by Colleen M. Sasso, RN, BSN,
CRN, Board Member

SILENT AUCTION

SHHHH!!!!

It's time for the SILENT AUCTION to be held on Sunday November 26, 2000 at ARNA's 19th Annual Meeting and Educational Program in Chicago, Illinois. If you will be attending the meeting, come prepared to bid on great items donated for this fundraising event. Payment for winning bids will be accepted in cash, by check or those great plastic cards (*credit*, that is) we all love. If you, your ARNA Chapter or someone you know would like to donate an item to be auctioned, please contact the ARNA office for information.

-submitted by Colleen Sasso

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO



OR



YOUR BIDS

committee news

The **CEU Committee** needs sample packets to review. What we are looking for is copies of programs that have been put on for CEU's to review as a mock approval so we can show that we evaluate the packets appropriately when we are audited by the ANCC. The ARNA office has the packet of paperwork that is needed to be completed to send with the sample packets. It is a *sample* application only. No one can apply officially for contact hours to be awarded during this preliminary process.

For further information and if you have any questions, contact Melissa Holbrook

c/o ARNA

820 Jorie Blvd.

Oak Brook, IL 60523

from the Editor's desk

When the time comes around every 3 months for me to put this newsletter together I try to keep the format interesting so that it will be worth your time. I feel the newsletter is lacking contributions from you, the readers. It is not that clinical articles are needed; it would be more personal and pertinent to YOU if a few members sent me current information regarding what your Chapters are doing. News of upcoming educational seminars, meetings, personal or Chapter accomplishments, changes in hospital structure - just give me some facts and I will "do it up" for you. Ever notice that there is almost always something about the *New Jersey Chapter*? That's because I belong to that chapter and I use the newsletter as a tool to communicate with the other members. I invite you to do the same. The information does not have to come from an officer.

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER and what you read here is a summary of what's going on involving Radiology

Helen O'Daly RN, BSN, CRN
Editor
RN News

RN NEWS

**RN NEWS IS
PUBLISHED
QUARTERLY TO KEEP
ARNA MEMBERS
BETTER INFORMED**

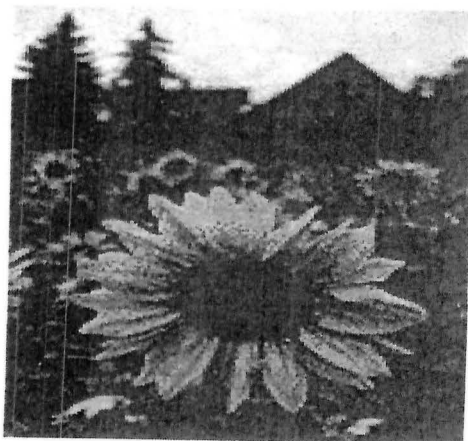
Send submissions and comments to:
Helen O'Daly RN, BSN
Editor, RN News
276 Dallas Road
North Brunswick, NJ
08902
(732) 422-4020
nwheels@prodigy.net
work fax: 732-744-5523

Editorial Staff:
Wendy Bommer RN, BSN
Cincinnati, Ohio

Julie McNay RNC, BS
Cincinnati, Ohio

Donna Corman RN
Chesterfield, MO

A SPECIAL "THANK YOU"
TO MY DAUGHTER, CHRIS
WHOSE YOUTHFUL EYES
HELP ME CATCH PROBLEMS
BEFORE THIS NEWSLETTER
REACHES YOU!



Please note the address
for the purpose of
conducting business
with ARNA:
820 Jorie Blvd.
Oak Brook, IL 60523



chapter news

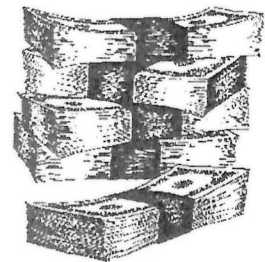
New Jersey Chapter

The New Jersey Chapter held its Spring Educational Program on Saturday, May 6, 2000 at the Medical Center at Princeton. Topics included Radiation Oncology, central venous access devices and troubleshooting, dialysis access in Interventional Radiology, and organ and tissue donation. What a surprise the attendees were in for when the representative of the Sharing Network introduced a *donor mother* who shared her experiences surrounding the donation of organs from her baby daughter! It was difficult to hold back the tears as this brave young mother told her story and helped us understand the scope of organ and tissue donation. We found out that we had a lot to learn on this subject!

The Fall Educational Program and Annual Business Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2000 at Riverview Medical Center, Red Bank, New Jersey. Please contact myself or Linda Strangio, Treasurer for details; also watch your mail in early September for the program brochure. All are welcome. Highlights of our programs are cash door prizes and CEU's for Radiologic Technologists.

Linda Strangio: MRInurse@aol.com

submitted by Helen O'Daly, President-elect, New Jersey Chapter



chapter news

Carolinas Chapter

Annual Spring Meeting

The Carolinas Chapter of ARNA met on April 29, 2000 in Columbia, SC in conjunction with the South Carolina Society of Nuclear Medicine. 25 nurses were in attendance from North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. The topics presented included "MRI Safety", "The Nurse's Role in Conscious Sedation", "Oxygen is a Drug", "Hot Tips for T.I.P.S.", "An Historical Overview of Nuclear Medicine Imaging", and "Colors that Clash" - a system for learning more about how we relate to others in the workplace. As is often the case with these meetings, the best part was the roundtable discussion at lunchtime. It was an opportunity to network and exchange information *and* obtain CEU's *all at the same time!* We had a *blast* and gave away more than our usual number of door prizes (which pleased everyone).

The next Carolinas Chapter educational meeting will be held Saturday, October 7, 2000 in Chapel Hill, NC. All who wish to attend are welcome.

For information, contact Delma Armstrong RN,BSN, CRN, President of the Carolinas Chapter of ARNA

email: darmstro@unch.unc.edu

phone: 919.966.1081 or fax: 919.966.9278



RADIOLOGY NURSE Helpline
PLEASE CONSIDER SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES
WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES

We are interested in learning WHO evaluates RN's in the Radiology Department. We are also trying to gather tools used to measure staffing acuity levels and gather productivity stats of the RN's. Any information will be appreciated!

Andrea Brewer RN, BSN
Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Radiology Department
618-549-0701 ext. 65161
stmcdrl@globaleyes.net

I need some information on how other institutions are caring for patients with contrast extravasations. Please send any comments and procedures/policies to:

Terri Ranson R.N.
C/O Charleston Area Medical Center Medical Imaging Department
800 Pennsylvania Avenue
Post Office Box 6670
Charleston, West Virginia 25362
Fax # 304-348-3958

What wording do the Technologists use for the informed consent forms where you work? In Georgia we are required to have consent for the intravenous injection of contrast. The Technologists do not want to write out "Computerized Axial Tomography of the Head with intravenous contrast" or "Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the Lumbar Spine with intravenous contrast". How do your technologists write the consents?

Thanks,
Michael Nissen, RN, BSN, CEN, CRN
mnissen@tanner.org

**HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE ARNA WEBSITE?
GO TO www.arna.net, THEN GO TO “DISCUSSION GROUPS”,
THEN “DISCUSSION HEADLINES”.
YOU WILL SEE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SUBMITTED ON
A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS, JUST LIKE HERE IN *RN NEWS*.
IT IS LIKELY THAT YOU WILL FIND SOME OF THE TOPICS
USEFUL TO YOU!**