



American Society of
Ophthalmic Registered Nurses
Specialists in Eye Care

ASORN CONNECTION

March 2009

Education—Leadership—Collaboration

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ASORN CONNECTION

2009 is off to a great start for ASORN and we hope it is for you as well! In addition to the excitement of a rapidly unfolding new year, ASORN is delighted to announce many new and exciting events that are both ongoing and right around the corner!

Provider and Approver Reaccreditation News

We are extremely proud to report that ASORN recently achieved the highest possible six year re-accreditation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation (ANCC COA). ASORN is accredited as a Provider of continuing education for nurses and also as an Approver of continuing education for nurses for activities offered by other individuals or organizations. ASORN's intense site visit occurred December 1-2 in San Francisco and we were well-represented by Provider Unit Director, Barbara Harmer; Approver Unit Director, Kate Goldblum; Executive Director, Lisa Brown and Client Services Coordinator, Megan Murphy. In addition a number of other members participated in telephone interviews. To fully appreciate the strength of this achievement, we share the following quote from the ANCC's October 18, 2008 "Accreditation E-news Brief":

"It is not the norm to earn a six year accreditation- as most organizations are out of compliance in numerous ways. The applicants can best be viewed as reaching for excellence in continuing nursing education through a continuous self-evaluation process. In itself, the continuous journey toward excellence is the hallmark of a successful organization, and all applicant organizations are high performers who seek excellence in all that they do. During fiscal years 2005 through spring 2008, eligible applicants' accreditation statistics (those organizations reapplying) are as follows:

*33% of applicants received 6 years accreditation
67% of applicants received 4 years accreditation"*

Congratulations to our wonderful ASORN representatives and thank you for your hard work on this important process!

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ASORN's 33rd Annual Meeting

It is never too early to start planning for ASORN's Annual Meeting. This year ASORN will be hosting attendees in beautiful San Francisco, California, so be sure to save the date for October 24th-26th, 2009! ASORN will continue to bring you the most up-to-date, hot educational topics for our industry as well as numerous opportunities for networking with old friends and new acquaintances. ASORN's meeting will be in the heart of Union Square at the historic Westin St. Francis Hotel.

Details surrounding ASORN's 33rd Annual Meeting are coming together quickly and we look forward to continuing to share them with you. Look for an advance post card in the mail during this spring to give you an idea of what ASORN's leadership has in store for San Francisco '09!

The Annual Meeting Program Planning Committee will continue to guide you toward October with a variety of Insight articles so be sure to stay tuned!

Mark your calendars *NOW* for the following

Important Annual Meeting Dates

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| June 24 ASORN Registration Opens | July 8 AAO Non-member Hotel Registration Opens | July 15 ASORN Online Registration Opens at www.asorn.org | September 11 ASORN Advance Registration Closes | October 23 Onsite Registration Opens in San Francisco | October 24-26 ASORN's 33rd Annual Meeting |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|

Planning to volunteer at the 2009 ASORN Annual Meeting? ASORN is always in need of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers at the Annual Meeting – room monitors and speaker introducers are key to the success of the meeting and we can't do it without your help! Look for volunteer information in the coming months through both the electronic newsletter as well as targeted volunteer messages to active ASORN members.

Finally, make the Annual Meeting your opportunity to be recognized! ASORN is accepting applications for [Awards & Scholarships](#) until June 1st. Have you recently written or published a paper? Share your knowledge and submit it for our [Free Papers](#) session, which will be held during lunch on Monday, October 26th at the Annual Meeting.

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Membership Cards

Thank you for renewing your dues! We are currently in the process of mailing 2009 membership cards, a member benefit that the Board has reinstated for 2009, so be on the look out for yours in the mail this month!

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ASORN Joins Task Force on Wrong Site Surgery / Wrong IOL Implantation Elimination Campaign

During the Spring 2008 American Academy of Ophthalmology Council meeting, Steve Lane, MD, Academy Secretary for Ophthalmic News & Education (O.N.E.) Network, gave a brief presentation regarding the plans for a Wrong Site Surgery/Wrong IOL Implantation Elimination Campaign. A task force, led by Gary S. Schwartz, MD and including representatives of several subspecialty societies, OMIC, ASORN and other organizations was created to develop guidelines for the elimination of such errors.

During its November 7, 2008 meeting, the task force's recommendations were approved and accepted by the American Academy of Ophthalmology's Board of Trustees as the consensus statement of the best practice to avoid these errors in the future. The document containing these recommendations can be located currently on the [ASORN Web site](#).

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Joint Commission Wrong Site/Procedure Guidelines

Do you work in a Joint Commission accredited facility? Then be aware that the guidelines for Wrong Site/Procedure will differ from those guidelines recently set forth by the ASORN-AAO Joint Statement regarding Wrong Site/Procedure. The Joint Commission Wrong Site/Procedure Guidelines can also be

located through the [ASORN Web site](#). Note that all personnel who work for Joint Commission accredited facilities must comply with the guidelines put forth by the Joint Commission.

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Standards of Ophthalmic Clinical Nursing Practice

Recently revised in 2008, ASORN's *Standards of Ophthalmic Clinical Nursing Practice* was developed to help establish guidelines to provide excellent, consistent, cost-effective ophthalmic nursing care, and to follow through by evaluating professional ophthalmic nursing practice. These universal standards focus on providing nursing care and performing professional role activities while considering the tremendous variability in environments and roles in which nurses function. To order your copy, please visit the ASORN Web site and download an [order form](#) today!

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ASORN Approver Unit & Provider Unit Committees Seek Volunteers for Future Leadership Positions

Are you a member of ASORN looking to be more involved in your organization? Do you hold both a nursing degree (BSN or MSN) as well as an advanced degree? If so, ASORN is seeking two qualified candidates who are ready and willing to be mentored by the current Approver Unit Chair and Provider Unit Director. For further information on these unique opportunities, interested and qualified candidates should contact ASORN President [Eileen Beltramba](#) or ASORN Executive Director [Lisa Brown](#) for further information.

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UPDATED: Application Manual for Approval of Continuing Nursing Educational Activities

Do you frequently plan continuing nursing educational activities or are you planning to do so in the future? Be sure to familiarize yourself with the recently updated ASORN Application Manual for Approval of Continuing Nursing Educational Activities – available NOW on the ASORN [Web site](#). All applications for approval of continuing nursing education should now be submitted using this updated version and all older versions that you may have saved or stored should be replaced.

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ASORN Member & Updated Local Chapter Contact Information Online

You can now access both the ASORN [Member Handbook](#) as well as the updated ASORN [Local Chapter Contact Information](#) via our Web site. Be sure to check it out! We also have created an online [Local Chapter Manual](#) for new members wanting to start a new local chapter.

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Upcoming Educational Events & Regional Meetings

Be sure to mark your calendars for the following upcoming educational events and ASORN regional meetings:

March 28, 2009

Visions of the Future X
Greater Kansas City Chapter of ASORN
Kansas City, MO

March 28, 2009

20th Annual Seminar
Grand Canyon Chapter of ASORN
Phoenix, AZ

March 28, 2009

13th Annual Dayton Chapter of ASORN Ophthalmology Conference
Dayton, OH

April 25, 2009

Challenges in Ophthalmology 2009
Hudson Valley Chapter of ASORN
Mt. Kisco, NY

May 16, 2009

5th Annual Seminar with Tri-state Ophthalmological Society Meeting
Grand Canyon Chapter of ASORN
Flagstaff, AZ

July 25, 2009

ASORN Regional Meeting
Forth Worth, TX

August 28-30, 2009

ASORN Regional Meeting
San Antonio, TX

October 3, 2009

5th Annual Regional Seminar
Grand Canyon Chapter of ASORN
Tucson, AZ

October 24-26, 2009

33rd ASORN Annual Meeting
San Francisco, CA

For further details on these events, check out the Educational Programs section of the [ASORN Web site](#).

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Spring 2009 ANCC Journey to Magnet Excellence Workshops

Learn from the ANCC experts. This 2-day workshop will give you the tools to help you attain the highly coveted Magnet designation or re-designation. All levels of nursing leaders and professionals are encouraged to attend.

Learning Objectives for the workshops are:

(Within the context of your organization)

- Describe the structure, purpose and evolution of the new Magnet Model
- Explain the 5 components of the new Magnet Model as the framework for professional nursing process
- Generate exemplars for each component of the Magnet Model
- Describe the role of critical thinking, creativity and innovation in transforming nursing practice through the Magnet program

Contact hours will be awarded to nurses who successfully complete this activity.

| Mark your calendars for upcoming dates | | |
|--|--|--|
| March 12th-13th 2009 Women's Hospital Baton Rouge, LA | March 26th-27th 2009 Mercy Hospital Miami, FL | April 27th-28th 2009 Rex Healthcare Raleigh, NC |

To register or for additional information visit the [ANCC Web site](#).

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'Ask an Eye MD'

The American Academy of Ophthalmology is pleased to announce the launch of an exciting new interactive feature: [Ask an Eye MD](#). As the name suggests, Ask an Eye MD enables the public to submit questions about sight and eye health.

Features:

- Volunteer Eye MDs from the American Academy of Ophthalmology's membership answer questions within approximately one week.
- Every week, a few new questions are posted on the Ask an Eye MD landing page.
- Questions are tagged according to topic, so users can look for related questions and answers to see if their question has already been answered.
- Each physician's photo is listed with his or her answer, to underscore how the service connects patients' questions with real doctors' answers.

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ASORN Platinum Affiliate Spotlight: BD Medical – Ophthalmic Systems

Contact: Kathi Quigley, Marketing Services Manager

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Web: www.bd.com/ophthalmology

BD Medical – Ophthalmic Systems provides: BD Atomic Edge™ silicon single-use safety slit and accurate depth knives, BD Beaver™ Safety Cataract Knife System, a complete single-use cataract safety knife system that includes safety slit, sideport, and crescent knives. All BD Beaver™ and BD Atomic Edge™ safety knives have an integrated protective shield that is designed to protect healthcare workers from sharp injuries, and guards the blade from possible damage.

BD Medical – Ophthalmic Systems also provides BD Beaver™ blades and knives, BD Visitec™ Disposable Instruments including: Bonn Forceps, Capsulorhexis Forceps, Macpherson Forceps, Moorfield Forceps, Eye Speculum, Needle Holder, Vannas Scissors, Westcott Scissors, Buratto's Hook and Straight Micro-manipulator, as well as, BD Visitec™ cannulae, accessories, drapes, and BD CustomEyes™ custom kits.

BD is the global leader in safety-engineered, single-use products used in healthcare facilities around the world.

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