



## NEWSLETTER: October- November 2021

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While we are celebrating the change of seasons all over the world, this newsletter comes from the US and it's fall here in Georgia (USA). I'm a southerner and if you find yourself in the southeast United States, you will find college football is underway. The Atlanta Braves are in the National League Baseball playoffs, leaves are changing, pumpkins and apples are everywhere, and my favorite holiday is coming in November--**Thanksgiving**.

Thanksgiving prompts us at least once a year to surround ourselves with the bounty bestowed on us and allows us to be gracious and giving. This comes natural to nurses who give all the time 24/7. So, I'm sure that this may seem silly, but no. An attitude of gratitude is healthy in whatever form we can institute. Even if you are not in autumn but find yourself in the spring, or you don't experience noticeable changes in seasons where you live, please take time for gratitude, and take heart to what Thoreau encourages us to do.

**Live in each season as it passes: Breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influences of each. ---Henry David Thoreau**

The Board of Directors and I thank all of you for your hard work and dedication to making the profession of nursing, and especially perioperative nursing, an influential presence in the world. We have such a community of talent and expertise in eChapter. I'm surrounded by legends. **Thank you!**



### **AORN National Board of Directors Update--October 2021**

To keep up with what is happening, click on this link <https://www.ornurselink.org/resource-center/files/17635>



## eChapter Community Connections Events

3 separate times

We would love to hear from you

It's all on ZOOM --Pick from one of these dates and click on the registration link to join

October 20, 0900 (9am) Eastern [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4116337268389/WN\\_MHWKTFkpTPOcquW1t3nI9w](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4116337268389/WN_MHWKTFkpTPOcquW1t3nI9w)

October 21, 1700 (5pm) Eastern [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4316337269588/WN\\_ag\\_mG-53RneauHhSbA\\_Puw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4316337269588/WN_ag_mG-53RneauHhSbA_Puw)

October 21, 2100 (9pm) Eastern [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/1816337270453/WN\\_Y02POBK9QuGXyme6QKCmKg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/1816337270453/WN_Y02POBK9QuGXyme6QKCmKg)

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## 2022 EXPO Alert: Calling for Posters almost here--

### Deadline for abstract October-24-2021

Have you conducted new research? Started an innovative work initiative? Or are you solving a problem that advances the perioperative profession?

#### Share your knowledge as a poster presenter at Global Surgical Conference & Expo 2022

This is your chance to add to a collection of work by educators, clinicians, and perioperative leaders.

Poster abstracts are being accepted through Oct. 24 on the following topics:

- clinical innovation
- diversity, equity, inclusion (DEI)
- design/concept
- evidence-based practice
- research ideas

Review AORN [poster guidelines and instructions page](#) to get started.

We look forward to learning how you're impacting the perioperative community.



RBRoe 2011

## eChapter CE Events

*Please check out the Enduring Education Library on the [echapter.org](http://echapter.org) website under the education tab, if you cannot attend the live event as most webinars are recorded and added as soon as possible with CEs offered to you*

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### October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021--CE Webinar Live / Zoom 5:00PM (P)6:00 PM (M)7:00 PM(C) 8:00 PM (E)

#### Fluoroscopy Radiation Exposure in the OR

Presenter: Tim Keenen, MD



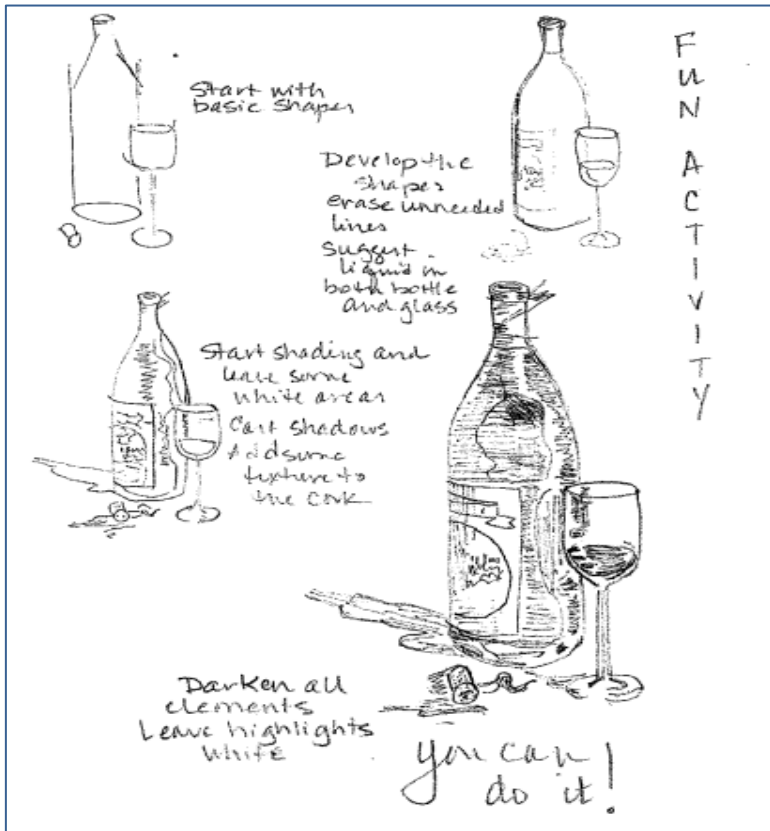
Register here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/6416330232157/WN\\_OLxqnHAWRrKx3RobBMyE5w](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/6416330232157/WN_OLxqnHAWRrKx3RobBMyE5w)

### October 22-23, 2021-- Georgia State Council Annual Conference



AORN Board members & officers Holly Ervine, Vangie Dennis, Bill Duffy, and Darlene Murdock are just some of the featured speakers--it's not too late to register. Virtual attendance is only \$25.00 *Click here to register* <https://gacouncilnurse.org/>

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## Break Time!!!

For those who say they can't do something, I'm here to provide a chance to be mindful and take a break.

Take a moment to look at things around you and just doodle or try to draw this picture.

It's doesn't have to be perfect, but like our spotlight shows, step out and be adventurous!

Have fun—there's an artist in all of us!

## Start Consideration for AORN's 2022 National Ballot --Learn more about the candidates

*Congratulations to our eChapter members who have been selected to be on the national ballot (Highlighted)*

### President-elect (1 to be elected)

- Brenda G. Larkin, MS, RN, ACNS-BC, CNS-CP, CNOR, CSSM OR
- Elizabeth S. Pincus, MSN, MBA, RN, ACNS-BC, CNS-CP, CNOR CA

### Vice President (1 to be elected)

- Darlene B. Murdock, BSN, BA, RN, CNOR, CSSM TX
- Kristy P. Simmons, MSN, RN, CNOR LA

### Secretary (1 to be elected)

- Laura A. Gayton, MHA, BSN, CNOR, CSSM IL
- Jamie Ridout, MSN, MBA, RN, CNOR, CASC, NEA-BC NC

### Board of Directors (3 to be elected)

- Donna J. Doyle, DNP, RN, CNOR, NE-BC OH
- Deborah Marie Ebert, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, CNOR, CCRN, CPAN, CAPA TX
- Jessica L. Gruendler, DNP, RN-BC, CPHQ, CNOR CA
- Robert J. Levin, MSN, RN, RRT, CNOR PA
- Megan K. Nolan, MSN, RN, CNOR, CSSM MA
- Rebecca K. Vortman, DNP, RN, CNOR IL
- V. Doreen Wagner, Ph.D., RN, CNOR, FAORN, FAAN GA

### Nominating Committee (3 to be elected)

- Crystal A. Bricker, MSN, RN, CNOR IL
- Carol Ann Devlin, MSN, RN, CNOR PA
- Hung-Fu Charlie Lin, MSN, APRN, NP-C, CNOR CA
- Susan Lynch, Ph.D., RN, NEA-BC, CNOR PA
- Roderick D. McArdle, MSN, BA, RN, CNOR MA
- Daphny Peneza, MSN, RN, CNOR, CSSM TX

## Spotlight on: Patti Owens



Disclaimer, I already know Patti, probably closer than anyone else on the board just because she is the eChapter secretary and we share a lot of information each month, but that's one aspect of knowing someone in a specific context. She has been active in eChapter for many years serving on committees and as officer and board member. I found as I dug a little deeper that once again, as exemplified in the past three interviews, I found myself in the midst of a nursing legend. I hope you enjoy this interview as much as I did.

Patti is a force. She has always wanted to be a nurse and envisioned helping people through their suffering and directing them to better outcomes. She had no idea that being a nurse would lead her to the career she has now.

She graduated from the University of Colorado-Denver, with a BSN in 1976. Her first job landed her in Labor and Delivery. She recalled she enjoyed this rotation in school, so she accepted it. She got married and as a newly wed and a new grad, you find that some of the hospital shift rotations did not always make for the most conducive relationship building. As a result, she started looking for a position in the daylight.

They moved to Idaho for the purpose of her husband to complete his master's degree. The hospital she applied to was very small, and there was a day position open in the Operating Room so she accepted it. Due to the size of the hospital she learned to scrub, circulate, and provide post op care. This education proved invaluable to her.

They moved again to accommodate her husband's job in Washington state and due to Patti's experiences she was an easy fit for the OR position she applied for. It was during this time that medical lasers started to enter the OR. It was at that time that Patti found she was a Technology Geek. She truly liked the equipment and learning all about it. She became clinical educator after 2 years and created a program to credential doctors and staff. She worked directly with vendors, specialists, and staff to train laser operators and laser specialists. This led to per diem consulting with laser vendors and started joining in professional organizations to ensure safety and compliance by assisting in forming standards and operating policies for laser safety. As laser technology grew into the aesthetic worlds of plastics and dermatology, Patti evolved as well.

Mind you this work with laser was per diem. Patti was also maintaining her role as clinical educator (13 years), volunteering for various professional organizations, wife, and mother, and also working on her master's degree in healthcare administration. She had a view that she would be a great nursing administrator, but this was the 1990's and for those that remember that time, the hospitals were making this level of management do more with less, meaning that one manager may be assigned multiple departments to manage and some of those they may have little or no knowledge. She watched the stress in these managers increase exponentially and she did not relish a career like that. So, she left the hospital setting, after her first marriage ended, and directed her attention to aesthetic laser practices. In Washington state, RNs had authority to perform laser procedures in offices under

MD supervision. Her expertise and collaboration with other nurses and specialists nationally and internationally allowed for her to create policy, standards, and safety protocols for the masses.

Over the years she finally met her soulmate, remarried, and together they left the rainy Pacific NW escaping to the sunny California desert where she resides today and works for a large Plastic Surgery surgicenter and aesthetic clinic as the regulatory and compliance officer.

Patti has demonstrated through her career and volunteerism a sense of adventure. She pushes herself, and states sometimes she is her own worst critic. Not uncommon for a trailblazer. She has proven that you can utilize all your education in various settings, and when looking back you can see a pattern emerge that can serve new nurses in understanding that the nursing profession builds on phases, knowledge, experiences, and introductions. She shows that you have to look at every opportunity as a possible new adventure for you. It's important to note that Patti praises her mentors as Penny Smalley, Vangie Dennis, Kay Ball, and specific MDs (Brazil, Lazafame, and Sofonio), who have shown her the values of collaboration, consensus building, and respect. She also values her professional relationship with Bill Ertle, who provides consulting opportunities in teaching Medical Laser Safety Officer courses throughout the US. Collectively they have provided support, shared information generously, and empowered her.

She feels that her passion for patient, staff, and provider safety has driven her work and her career trajectory to become a content expert for AORN and other organizations to lead the way in laser safety initiatives worldwide. Her newest excitement is watching how research is becoming more translational to the bedside (bench to bedside). Her international exposure has provided opportunities to gain a more eclectic vision of safe practice and it has broadened her view of what is and what can be.

While some of the awards and accolades that Patti has garnered over the years, she has found that her spiritual health is as important as physical health or professional growth and uses her spiritual mentors to help her find peace and balance in such a busy life as she serves to improve safety efforts within her purview.

There are some things that you may not know about Patti—things you may not find on her professional resume...



She likes to cook—especially desserts



She has a blended family of 4 children and 3 grandchildren



She raises and trains Corgis



She has used Covid 19 to learn the game of golf ---(good luck)



***Thank you Patti for your work on keeping patients and healthcare providers educated and safe and following your path to where you are today!***

***On an ending personal note, I can say that Patti ends all of our conversations with a compliment, or something uplifting and positive. Her consistent encouragement is a spiritual gift that I will always be grateful for. (RBRoe)***



## eChapter Board of Directors

President: Rebecca Roe (GA)  
President Elect: Alecia Torrance (TN)  
Treasurer: Jen Menard (WA)  
Secretary: Patti Owens (CA)

**Board Members:** Susan Guerra (MX), Penny Smalley (IL), Wendy Perera (SC), Becky Davis (WA), Michael Garufi (OH)

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Contact us and post on our web and social media sites

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