

December 6, 2019

The Colorado Chapter of ASPMN was initiated in 2004 to support nurses managing pain. In recent years membership has declined. Issues for nurses in maintaining certification and in balancing time needs with in-person events and remote communications/media effectively are becoming more challenging.

In 2019 our outreach activity consisted of support for the Nursing Collaborative Conference in Denver last February. Betsy Woolf, past President of ASPMN was the Lead Planner for that conference. Several pain related topics were represented there: Holistic methods for addressing chronic pain, chemistry of cannabis, aromatherapy, hospice and palliative care and others.

In addition, several Board members attended an Opioid Prescribing Seminar in Loveland.

In the Summer, our Chapter sponsored a Policy Brief, submitted to AACN, to encourage curriculum enrichment in BSN programs related to chronic pain management.

All five Board members attended the National ASPMN Conference in Portland last September, "Bridging the Gaps in Pain Management." Keynote topics: Pain in Children, Managing Chronic Pain with Abuse Deterrent Extended Release Opioids, Collaborative Patient Care using Integrative Therapies, to name a few. (See Photos)

Our dedicated group is passionate about Pain! We strive to be expert resources for colleagues, patients and families and to interface with multidisciplinary teams, from theory to practice at the bedside, to result in optimal care.

We are in a transition from the old ways of meeting and learning from each other to something new; new methods, to stimulate membership and foster professional growth, exploring ways to address the pain epidemic while considering the risks of Opioid use, one patient at a time.

If you share in these interests, you are warmly invited to join/rejoin our Chapter and bring what lives in your heart and mind.

There are several vacancies on our Board of Directors. We usually have four Board meetings a year; sometimes remote, sometimes getting together. One meeting is held at the National September annual conference. In 2020 it will be held in Minneapolis, MN.

It is not necessary for an RN to be ANCC certified in Pain Management Nursing to become a member of the Chapter. Annual dues are \$25 payable online at this website. National dues information can be found at www.aspmn.org.

Do contact me with questions regarding Chapter membership or Board of Directors,
Barbara

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