

# The Bridge

AORN of The San Francisco Bay Area



Chapter #0512

May 2022

## Co-President's Message

As we close our Board Service calendar for 2021-2022 many things come to mind. Despite the ongoing focus on the Covid pandemic, be it surge, infection rate recession, new strain, level of virulence, or when/where masks are worn, we managed to forge ahead with successful chapter events and execution of required business. Likewise, as peri-operative nurses, we face many challenges daily and yet find a way to keep our patients and ourselves safe. With the ongoing barrage of senseless global violence, we are also challenged to bring hope and positivity to our patients to meet their health goals and colleagues to create a healthy work environment. No easy task.

It is important to acknowledge that positivity was generated and supported by our active members. I want to thank the officers I have served with this year; Co-President Alice Erskine, Vice President Kayla Chin, Treasurer Tom Koehler, Recording Secretary Tennille Parsons, Corresponding Secretary Joy Chau and The Board of Directors Anne Condon, Cally English, Alexa Mefford, and Margina Villatoro.

With volunteerism the foundation of our national organization at the chapter level, it is astonishing the power our national organization of AORN has established for peri-operative nursing in the health care arena on a global stage. However, our challenge at the local chapter level remains to be member involvement. The irony, of course, being, while strong we are also fragile. Local chapter activity is needed for our organization at the national level to stay strong and grow in strength to ensure patients and the nurses who provide care remain safe. This can only happen by maintaining standards, implementing the evidence of quality research, and involvement in the activities of the chapter.

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## Upcoming Events

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| June 2             | Chapter Board Meeting<br>via Zoom               |
| June 8             | AORN Live Webinar -<br>UV Room Disinfection     |
| June 23            | AORN Live Webinar -<br>Advanced Wound Closure   |
| June 25            | Monthly Group Hike<br>location TBA              |
| July 20            | AORN Live Webinar -<br>Managing Block Schedules |
| July 16 & 30       | MedShare<br>volunteer mornings                  |
| Sept 29 -<br>Oct 1 | OR Excellence Conference<br>Orlando, FL         |

The greatest glory in living  
lies not in never falling,  
but in rising every time we fall.

~ Nelson Mandela

## Chapter Officers & Board 2020 - 2021

### Co-President

Alice Erskine  
erskine@smccd.edu

### Co-President

Colleen Fiammengo  
aornfiammengo@gmail.com

### Vice President

Kayla Chin  
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### Recording Secretary

Tennille Parsons  
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### Treasurer

Thomas Koehler  
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### Corresponding Secretary

Joy Chau  
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### Board Member

Anne Condon  
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### Board Member

Cally English  
callyrahal@yahoo.com

### Board Member

Alexa Mefford  
alexaapaw@gmail.com

## Co-President's Message (cont'd from page 1)

I continue to be both perplexed and frustrated by the fact we have over 600 members in our chapter yet only 33 votes were cast for the next year's officers and board of directors election. Putting together a ballot with more than 1 candidate for each position is an annual struggle. As I write this for our newsletter, I realize probably few will read it and, hence, the Catch 22. However, I remain hopeful, confident, and thus positive the incoming officers and board members will find creative ways to inspire others to become more involved to build upon our strength as an organization.

Best,  
Colleen Fiammengo

## Clinical Corner

**A Nurse Asked:** We started to use the TIDI back table covers. These are supposed to be used to cover the back table if the case gets delayed. I asked our Charge Nurse how long they can stay that way, but she didn't know. I see some people setting up two or three set-ups and then covering them and leaving them in the hallway. What does AORN say about this?

**Answer:** Per the AORN Guidelines, "the sterile field should be prepared as close as possible to the time of use. It should be prepared in the OR where it will be used and should not be moved." Even the TIDI folks do not recommend moving a table covered by their product because there is a chance the drape can be disturbed by air currents and allow contaminants underneath.

If you have any questions about clinical issues, please contact Alice Erskine, MSN, RN, CNOR at [aerskine52@comcast.net](mailto:aerskine52@comcast.net).

# Congratulations Election Winners!

Congratulations to our newly elected candidates for the 2022/2023 term of office.



Joy Chau  
**President**



Wanda Harkless-Johnson  
**Corresponding Secretary**



Margina Villatoro  
**Vice President**



Kayla Chin  
**Board Member**



Sue Cox  
**Treasurer**



Colleen Lenahan  
**Board Member**

They will be joining Tennille Parsons, who will be serving the second year of her term as Recording Secretary, as well as Alexa Mefford, who will serve the second year of her term as Board Member.

Special thanks to our outgoing Co-Presidents, Alice Erskine and Colleen Fiammengo, as well as Thomas Koehler, who served two terms as Treasurer, and Anne Condon and Cally English, who were both Board Members.

## Chapter scholarships offered to members!

**\$395 - \$1,000  
depending on  
the scholarship**



**Deadline for  
applications is  
June 30, 2022**

**Invest in yourself and your future!**

Information on our chapter website - [aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com](http://aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com)



# Member Spotlight

In the last issue of our chapter newsletter, we began introducing you to some of our chapter members in our Member Spotlight. If you know someone whom you think should be featured, please submit their name to Joy Chau at [jbchaurn@gmail.com](mailto:jbchaurn@gmail.com).

## Sidhar Salla, BSN, RN



**Where do you work?** Stanford Children's Health, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford.

**How long have you been an OR nurse?** I have been an OR nurse for total of three years now. I am on my sixth month in my current position.

**Specialty/specialties?** I specialize in GI procedures and general surgery.

**What do you do to relax or have fun outside of work?** Travel to ski. I love skiing. I love winter. So I travel to ski.

**What inspired you to become an OR nurse?** I love human anatomy. I am fascinated seeing what's inside of our body.

**What do you enjoy about being an OR nurse?** I enjoy being on call. It gives me sense of purpose that because of my knowledge and skills I made an impact in someone's life by working outside of the regular scheduled time.

**If you hadn't become a nurse, what career would you have chosen?** I dream of becoming an astronaut. That is really my childhood dream. But I know I can be an astronaut despite choosing to become a nurse. So I didn't hesitate becoming a nurse because it won't stop me from becoming an astronaut.





# Spring 2022 Education Workshop



In collaboration with AORN Silicon Valley, special thanks to Stryker for their support and for hosting us at their facility and to our other vendors for their support: AtriCure, Cooper Surgical, Edward Lifesciences, Encision, Ethicon/J & J, Grand Canyon University, Milestone Medical, Pacira, Xodus.



# Outreach Events

## Thank You MedShare Volunteers!

Our chapter had its quarterly MedShare volunteer morning on April 23rd. It was great to be welcomed back after our January volunteer session was cancelled due to COVID. It was a first sort day with most items donated from local hospitals.



Thank you to our volunteers: Merts Anunciacion, Richard Gammad, Dolly Chan, Alice Erskine, Pam Catlett, Tennille Parsons, Joy Chau, and Wanda Harkless-Johnson.

We have two Saturday volunteer mornings in July scheduled. Join us on July 16th and/or July 30th. We have 6 volunteer slots for each day. Look for the registration link on our chapter website in early July.

## Career Fair at Clayton Valley Charter High School



Chapter corresponding secretary, Joy Chau, had a great time at the Clayton Valley Charter High School Career Fair on April 20th, introducing students to perioperative nursing as a possible career choice.

Thanks to Margina Villatoro for sharing this opportunity with the chapter and for providing Joy with candy to hand out! Thanks also to Alice Erskine for the poster board! And special kudos to Joy's OR manager at John Muir, Shawn Markwald, for letting her borrow a major lap set and the patient!!!



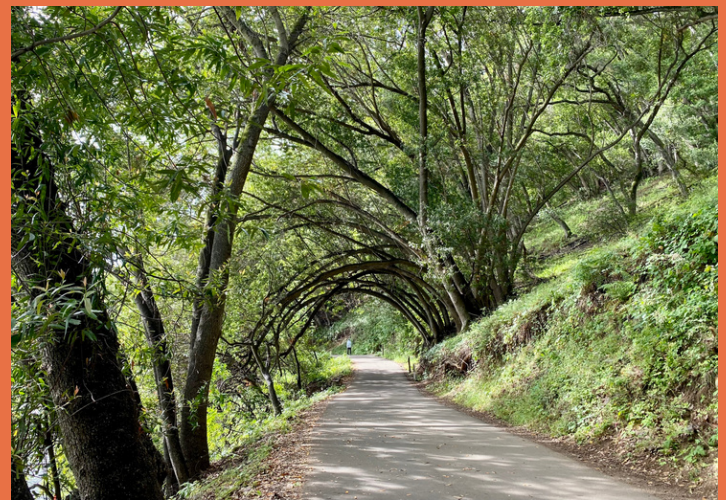
# Monthly Group Hikes

How about reducing some stress and improving our well-being while we connect and network with each other! What better way to accomplish this than to get outside and enjoy nature during a hike. Join us on the last Saturday of the month for our group hike. Do you have a favorite trail you'd like to suggest? Email Joy at [jbchaurn@gmail.com](mailto:jbchaurn@gmail.com).

## April - Kirby Cove, Sausalito



## May - Lake Chabot, Castro Valley





# VOLUNTEER WITH US!



RSVP in July @ [aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com](https://aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com)

MedShare is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the environment and healthcare through the efficient recovery and redistribution of surplus medical supplies and equipment.

Join us on either July 16th or July 30th or both as we sort medical supplied for shipment to underserved healthcare facilities in developing countries.

 **July 16th & 30th, 2022**

 **9.00 AM - 12.00 PM**

 **2937 Alvarado St.  
San Leandro, CA**

 **Casual Attire (Layers)  
Closed Toe Shoes**



**MedShare**  
Improving the quality of life of people and our planet



**Questions?** Contact Pam Catlett @ [p.catlett@att.net](mailto:p.catlett@att.net)

**More Info** [medshare.org](https://medshare.org)