



September 2024

# The Bridge Newsletter



# President's Message



Greetings and a warm welcome to my colleagues and fellow AORN of the San Francisco Bay Area members! I am honored and privileged to serve again as your president during the 2024/2025 term. Your chapter officers and board members and I look forward to planning professional development and networking events for you.

Our chapter membership stands at just over 650 members across the San Francisco, Marin, Alameda, Contra Costa, Sonoma, Solano, and Napa County regions. Due to our large membership size and vast representation areas, we continue to face the challenge of staying connected and engaging members.

Our Education Committee is busy planning some informative programs, including a full-day workshop in the spring. In the meantime, please join us for our monthly group hike this Saturday, September 21st, at the Lafayette Reservoir in Lafayette. On October 12th, we're hosting Mindfulness for Healthcare Professionals, an introduction to mindfulness meditation and yoga principles to assist in managing stress and burnout.

We also have community service activities scheduled with Special Olympics of Northern California on October 26th in San Jose to serve as volunteer medics during their annual football tournament and with White Pony Express in Concord for a food rescue morning on November 23rd.

As you can see, many opportunities are available to engage with your chapter. All that is missing is YOU! As I've said before, this chapter exists because of YOU and for YOU, its members! We need YOU! Once again, I challenge you to participate in at least one way with your chapter.

The Board and I are very excited about the coming year and serving you! Please feel free to contact me at [jbchaurn@gmail.com](mailto:jbchaurn@gmail.com). I would love to hear from you!

Warm regards,  
Joy Chau, BS RN, PHN, CNOR



***Congratulations to the 2024  
class of AORN Fellows & to  
our chapter's board member,  
Dr. Munro***

AORN is proud to announce **nine** new individuals as Fellows of AORN for their dedication and achievements to the perioperative community.

**\*Larry L. Asplin, MSN, RN, CSSM(E), CNOR(E), FAORN**

**\*Donna J. Doyle, DNP, RN, CNOR, NE-BC, FAORN**

**\*Holly S. Ervine, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, NPD-BC, CNOR, FAORN**

**\*Brenda G. Larkin, APRN, MS, ACNS-BC, CNS-CP, CSSM, CNOR, FAORN**

**\*Cassandra A. Munro, PhD, BS, RN, RNFA, CNOR, FAORN, FAAN**

**\*Kenneth Romito, DNP, APRN, AGCNS-BC, CNOR, CSSM, FAORN**

**\*Christopher Stucky, PhD, RN, CNOR, CSSM, CNAMB, NEA-BC, FAORN, FAAN**

**\*Sharon Ann Van Wicklin, PhD, RN, CNOR, CRNFA(E), CPSN-R, PLNC, ISPAN-F, FAORN, FAAN**

**\*David A. Wyatt, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, CNOR, FAORN, FAAN**

# AORN Member

## Spotlight

**Dale Cutshall, MS, RN, CNOR**

AORN SFBA Chapter #0512 Member since 2009



Employed @ ABSMC-  
Berkeley since 2000;  
1 year in ICU/CCU &  
23 years in O.R.

Service-Line Lead:  
Urology



### Hobbies:

At home, I enjoy gardening and home maintenance projects. I also practice a 450-year-old traditional form of Japanese martial art called "Iaido." Iaido emphasizes being aware and capable of quickly drawing the sword and responding to sudden attacks. Away from home, I enjoy hiking, photography, fishing, and hunting.

### Career Inspiration & Path:

I decided in my late teens that serving others was my primary mission. I first earned a degree in Physical Education, then Kinesiology, and worked at an Acute Care Hospital-based Cardiac Rehabilitation program as an Exercise Specialist. While working around other Health Care Workers, particularly Nurses, I decided to go back to school and get a degree in Nursing. Following that, I first worked in a Cardiac Care (Telemetry) Unit and soon moved to the Intensive Care Unit. I was first hired at ABSMC-Ashby Campus in its ICU/CCU. The surgical environment had been an interest of mine since Nursing School, so when an on-site training program became available, I requested a transfer. As they say...I never looked back. I quickly found that Surgical Nursing was what I loved most!

### Favorite Foods:

I enjoy a wide variety of cultural/ethnic foods, however, spending my entire life in California has influenced my love of Mexican food, probably more than any other

# Advanced Practice Scholarship & First-time Certification Recipients; Applications Accepted Until 9/30/24





OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Deadline  
Sept. 30, 2024

## SCHOLARSHIP Opportunities

AORN of The San Francisco Bay Area is offering scholarships to four chapter members!

- ADVANCED PRACTICE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP**  
\$1,000  
Applicants must be enrolled in or have completed an advanced practice degree program to obtain a BSN, MSN or DNP within the last 6 months.
- FIRST-TIME CNOR/CFPN/CNAMB/CRNFA CERTIFICATION SCHOLARSHIP**  
CNOR - \$445 / CFPN - \$195 / CNAMB - \$375 / CRNFA - \$550  
Applicants must have passed the CNOR, CFPN, or CNAMB exams or have received a passing score for their CRNFA Professional Portfolio within the last 12 months.

**FOR MORE INFO & APPLICATION FORMS**  
[aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com](https://aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com)





Apply on Chapter's Website @

<https://aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com>



# Please Join Us for Our September Hike



## Monthly Group Hike

### LAFAYETTE RESERVOIR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 | 8AM

A 3-mile easy hike on a stroller-friendly paved trail around the reservoir.

Family, friends,  
and dogs  
are welcome!

Metered Parking:  
\$1.50/hr for 2 hour max.  
or Daily Parking: \$7



RSVP by Sept. 20th - [aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com](https://aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com)



# Point Pinole Hike Regional Shoreline July 20, 2024





# Rodeo Beach Coastal Trailhead

Mill Valley, CA

Saturday,  
August 10th



# Upcoming Events

- Monthly Group Hike: Saturday, September 21st, 0800 @ Lafayette Reservoir
- Deadline for completing an application for Advanced Practice Scholarship & first-time CNOR, CRNFA, CFPN, and CNAMB by 9/30/24
- Volunteer opportunity for Special Olympics football tournament at Kathleen McDonald High School, San Jose, CA 0900-1230 and 1230-1400 slots available
- Save the date for a volunteer opportunity at White Pony Express on November 23rd; the flyer and details will be posted on the Nursing Network website soon...

# Clinical Corner



## A nurse asked: “Why Aren’t All Skin Preparation Solutions Sterile?”

**Answer:** There are two primary reasons why all skin preparation solutions are not sterile. The first is that sterilization methods using heat or radiation can affect the chemical integrity of the active ingredient in the antiseptic.<sup>35</sup> The current method of sterilization involves heating glass ampules containing the antiseptic solution in a convection oven at 169°F (76°C) to 176°F (80°C) for 24 to 31 hours. The low temperature and long processing time are necessary to ensure the solution's sterility without reducing the antiseptic's concentration and purity. The use of a convection oven is also inefficient because convection ovens require a prolonged time for the initial heating (i.e., 2 to 6 hours) and final cooling of the solution (i.e., 1 to 2 hrs).

The second reason that many skin preparation solutions are not sterile is that it takes an enormous commitment from the manufacturer. Producing a sterile version of an antiseptic solution requires time, effort, and dedication to research and development.

**Reference:** Pfeidler, a division of AORN. United States Patent US 9,078,934 B1 (2023 September 12). <https://patentimages.storage.googleapis.com/a3/ed/10/c66118148db778/US9078934.pdf>. Patent issued July 14, 2015.

# Be Inspired

*In order to love who you are,  
you cannot hate the experiences  
that shape you.*

*Andrea Dykstra*

# Before We Go...

If you know of an RN or nursing student(s) who should be featured in our newsletter, please submit their name & and contact information to:  
Wanda Harkless-Johnson at [wtheblessed@aol.com](mailto:wtheblessed@aol.com)

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Please consider joining our monthly group hikes. They are great ways to reduce stress while networking with other healthcare professionals. Joy Chau plans our hikes, which occur once monthly. Forward hiking suggestions to:  
Joy Chau at [jbchaurn@gmail.com](mailto:jbchaurn@gmail.com)

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If you know of any AORN members not enjoying their membership benefits, encourage them to become active. Also, encourage non-members to become members.

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All nursing students, new graduate nurses, and Periop 101 students are encouraged to participate in the chapter's events. If anyone has a Periop 101 student or new nurse graduate, please forward their picture, name, & and name of the facility to: Wanda Harkless-Johnson@ [wtheblessed@aol.com](mailto:wtheblessed@aol.com)