

Greater Cleveland Chapter of AORN



SPRING 2026

greaterclevelandaorn.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends & Colleagues,

I hope everyone had wonderful holiday celebrations with their family and friends. Many thoughts come to mind as I think of the first half of my presidency. It has been far more challenging than expected. I want to offer sincere thanks to Nancy Fellows, Cindy Tucker, Laura Farabaugh and Annette Pirozek for your support and ongoing encouragement.

While our fall fundraiser with LaVera was not as robust as I had hoped for, I look forward to the many events scheduled for the next few months. Those include another LaVera dinner, our Malley's Easter candy sale, Sip & Paint in March and our annual wine tasting. Because we have carried a significant balance in our checking account, we were able to award two \$1000 Sherry Petryszyn Student Nurse Scholarships. Thank you to the Board of Directors for supporting the Scholarship Committee's request. The scholarship winners are highlighted in this newsletter. We are also able to offer \$1000 funding to each of our delegates to the AORN Expo in April.

The Education committee has done an excellent job of providing interesting and timely topics to us for our meetings. I look forward to presentations from chapter member, Nancy Fellows and Dr. Samuel Friedlander in the coming months. I'm proud of our Outreach efforts supporting End 68 Hours of Hunger, Recreation Club, and the Salvation Army Ringing the Bells.

I'll be taking a short break from AORN duties as Steve and I celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary with a well-deserved trip to warmer climates! I look forward to an active calendar when I return and want to encourage everyone to stay active and dedicated to our chapter.

Together we can do great things!

Kathy Savochka RN

AORN of Greater Cleveland Chapter President

VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings for the New Year 2026.

I'm pleased and honored to present the following members who have returned their completed point sheets making them eligible to serve as officers/BOD for our chapter and/or to represent our chapter as delegates to the AORN 2026 EXPO in New Orleans LA on April 11-14, 2026.

Nancy Fellows, Cindy Tucker, Theresa Brown, Laurie Gronowski, Marilyn Frazier, Laura Farabaugh, Judy Greig, Kathy Savochka, Linda Bowen, Veronica Lenin, Geneva Sarratt, Laurie Canula, Teresa Washington, Aretha Brown Rudolph, Barb Bonus, Melinda Weirich, Annette Pirozek, Jacqueline Lantis.

If you have an expressed interest and are willing to make a commitment to serve as a delegate to the upcoming EXPO in New Orleans, please contact me by February 28th so that your name can be added to the delegate list at AORN national headquarters.

What does it mean to be a Delegate?

Being a delegate for AORN means acting as a voting representative for your local chapter or as a national member at the annual House of Delegates (HOD) during the AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo. Delegates are responsible for voting on bylaw changes, electing the board of directors and nominating committee members, and shaping the future of perioperative nursing practice. Essentially, an AORN delegate plays a direct role in the governance and strategic direction of the association.

Sincerely,

Cindy Tucker RN BA RNFA CNOR

Call/Text: 440.655.5223

Leave Message: 440.893.9109

Email: ctuckernfa@gmail.com

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT (2026)

Kathy Savochka RN
kathysavochka1@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT ELECT (2026)

Marilyn Frazier BSN, RN, CNOR (2026)
Akron Children's Outpatient Surgery Ctr.
motfriend@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT (2027)

Cindy Tucker BA, RN, CNOR, RNFA
ctuckernfa@msn.com

SECRETARY (2027)

Nancy Fellows MSN, MPA, RN, CNOR ASP
nfellowsobn@gmail.com

TREASURER (2026)

Judith Greig MSN, RN
Lakeland Community College Emeritus
judygreig@sbcglobal.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laurie Canala
MSN, MBA, RN, CNOR (2026)
moosie324@hotmail.com

Marilyn Frazier BSN, RN, CNOR (2026)
Akron Children's Outpatient Surgery Ctr.
motfriend@yahoo.com

Barbara Bonus RN (2027)
zindrbob@gmail.com

Laurie Gronowski BSN, RN CNOR (2027)
Cleveland Clinic-Beachwood Surgery Center
laurie.gronowski@gmail.com

Annette Pirozek RN (2027)
(216-598-0703)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Linda Bowen
MBA, BSN, RN, CNORc (2026)
qltiger@aol.com

Theresa Brown BS, RN, CNORc (2027)
brownmother3@gmail.com

Veronica Lenin BSN, RN (2027)
lenins@att.net

Laura Farabaugh RN, CNOR (2026)
UH Ajuha Medical Center
Advisor Liaison Nominating Committee
triglide23@gmail.com



Members Cindy Tucker and Aretha Brown-Rudolph volunteered at the Alisha Jones Courtney Care Foundation's Red Cross Blood Drive at the Twinsburg Community Center on October 11th. Thank you for time and commitment!

The Salvation Army is grateful for the time and dedication our members gave to "Ringing-the-Bells" at The Great Lakes Mall on December 13th. This year President Kathy



Savochka was joined by Aretha Brown-Rudolph, Nancy Fellows, Marilyn Frazier and her BFF Cindy Beck, Judy Greig, Michelle Shannon, Teresa Washington, and Melinda Weirich. Our kettle collected \$430.78! Another record! Thank you everyone for taking time out of a busy Saturday and inclement weather to help those that are less fortunate.



End 68 Hours of Hunger

nourishing food in the hands of school children to carry them through the weekend. Thank you to those chapter members that continue to support this program.

This year President Kathy Savochka's civic organization of choice is **End 68 Hours of Hunger**. Here she is with her family getting ready to deliver a carload of non-perishable items to the center. This program puts



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

*As of December 28, 2025,
we have 236 members.*

Please welcome the following
new members:

AUGUST

Rachel Cousino	Toledo
Katelin Hendricks	Crystal Clinic
Chris Kasky	TriPoint
Erica Weeks	Fairview

SEPTEMBER

Sarah Boggs	Novus Clinic
Angie Douglas	CCF
Mason Haven	Lodi

OCTOBER

Shane Bishop	UH
Susan Gross	CCF
	Pres-
lie Hallwill	Summa
Melissa Reid	UH Wright
Michelle Shannon	Ahuja

NOVEMBER

Meghan Glanc	UNK
Tina Hayes	UH
Cara Heneghan	CCF
Codi Keenan	Metro
Sarah Lantz	Crystal Clinic
Lise Larsen	UPMC
Michelle Restaino	Firestone ASC
Michele Rosen	UNK
Debra Wallace	UH Elyria

DECEMBER

Robert Crane	CCF
Boushra Jawad	Assoc.
Stephanie Mihi	UH
Jessica Tooley	Assoc.

SHERRY PETRYSZYN STUDENT NURSE SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee and Officers and Board of Directors want to congratulate Navi Amin and Tony Messinides, both recipients of the **Sherry Petryszyn Student Nurse Scholarship!**

Congratulations

My name is Navi, and I am a fourth-year BSN student at Case Western

Reserve University. My interest in perioperative nursing has grown through a combination of shadowing, simulation, hands-on clinical experiences, and employment in operating rooms across several hospitals in Cleveland. This interest first emerged during my junior-year OR clinical rotation, which motivated me to further explore the specialty by shadowing throughout the summer and applying for a position as a nursing assistant in the operating room.

Through my work as an OR nursing assistant and the completion of a 280-hour preceptorship in Fall 2025, I have found a clinical setting that highlights the importance of teamwork, precision, and patient safety in a uniquely impactful way. Receiving the AORN of Greater Cleveland Sherry Petryszyn Student Nurse Scholarship has provided meaningful support during my final semester of nursing school, where I will be able to prepare for my transition to practice. As I prepare to graduate in May, I am eager to continue developing my skills and apply the knowledge I have gained over the past four years at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing by entering a perioperative nurse residency program in Cleveland.

Tony is a senior BSN student at Case Western Reserve University's Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing. His main interests in perioperative nursing are cardiothoracic and uro/gyn. Tony has worked as a CNA, a university tour guide, and on the health team at a summer camp. He is originally from the Chicago area. Since coming to Cleveland, he's gotten involved in civic life as an election night worker and helping college students register to vote.

SPRING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



**JAN
21
2026**

VIRTUAL (ZOOM) MEETING ONLY

“Understanding the Principals of Reprocessing: Surgical Instrument and Medical Devices”

Speaker: Nancy Fellows MSN, MPA, RN, CNOR Advanced Sterilization Products

Time: 6:00 pm Networking | 6:15 Meeting | CE Presentation to follow

**MAR
18
2026**

BOD & CHAPTER MEETING

“Update on Allergy: Chronic Rhinosinusitis and Allergic Contact Dermatitis”

Speaker: Samuel Friedlander M.D., University Hospitals Medical Ctr.

Place: Lakeland Community College, 7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, OH 44094

Health (H) Technology Building | RM H005 – H008

Time: 6:00 pm Networking | 6:15 pm meeting | Presentation to follow

**MAY
20
2026**

CHAPTER MEETING

TBA Please check Nursing Network for details

Speaker:

Place: Lakeland Community College, 7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, OH 44094

Health (H) Technology Building | RM H005 – H008

Time: 6:00 pm Networking | 6:15 pm meeting | Presentation to follow

All Meetings are Captured on Zoom; No Meetings in February or April

VIRTUAL ACCESS

<http://bit.ly/AORNVirtual>

Meeting ID: 536 402 3231

Passcode: gdg60t

LEGISLATIVE NOTICE

Congressman David Joyce, representing the 14th District of Ohio introduced several pieces of legislation this past year supporting our nurses and lowering the cost of health care. One of those efforts, the **Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act**, would support funding for essential nursing education and training, ensuring well-trained nurses are entering the workforce and providing high-quality care. He also introduced the **Improving Care and Access to Nurses (I CAN) Act**, which would remove federal barriers that prevent nurses from practicing the full scope of their education under Medicaid and Medicare Programs. These commonsense reforms invest in our nurses and ensure our health care system can meet patients' needs more efficiently and affordably.



AORN

NANCY FELLOWS
2812 FOWLER DRIVE
WILLOUGHBY HILLS, OH
44094

greaterclevelandaorn.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEB

2026



Malley's Easter Candy Fundraiser

Order Dates: January 18, 2026 – February 27, 2026
Orders Distributed: March 18, 2026, at the meeting
Contact to Order: Laurie Canala at 216.598.8143 or moosie324@hotmail.com

**MAR
21**

2026



Ohio Council of Perioperative Registered Nurses



Review of AORN National Candidates for Office

Time: 12 noon **Place:** Der Dutchman Restaurant (Buffet)
720 State Route 97W (right off I-71), Bellville, OH 44813

**MAR
7**

2026

Sip & Paint Fundraiser

Fundraiser events support our Scholarships
Time: Doors open at 12:00 pm for setup
12:45 pm Lunch | 1:30 pm Painting
Place: Wickliffe Community/Senior Center
900 Worden Road, Wickliffe, OH 44092

Cost: \$35.00 per person

Checks Payable: AORN of Greater Cleveland

Mail to: Judy Greig, 35511 Ridge Rd., Willoughby, OH 44094



**APR
6**

2026

LaVera Party Center Drive-Thru Dinner

Order ONLINE (Lasagna, Chicken Cutlet, Italian Sausage)
by Sunday, April 5, 2026 at 10 p.m.

Cost: \$60.00 (feeds 4-6)

Pick-up: Monday, April 6th **Time:** 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Behind LaVera 3200 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills

**APR
11-14**

2026

AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo

"Lighting the Pathway"

New Orleans, LA

**APR
25**

2026

Breakfast MEGA Meeting

Officers, Board Members, Committee Members

Time: 9:00 am – 12 noon, or till business concluded

Place: S. Franklin Circle

16600 Warren Court, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

TO BE FOLLOWED BY ...

Wine Tasting Event

Time: 12:30 – 2:30 pm

Place: Heinen's Chagrin Falls, Wine Tasting Room

Cost: \$35.00 per person

Checks Payable: AORN of Greater Cleveland

Reservations: Cindy Tucker, 440.893.9109

16550 Jordan Gardner Oval, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023



**MAY
6-12**

2026

National Nurses Week



**JUN
17**

2026

Chapter Installation Dinner

2026-2027 Officers and BOD

Place: Applebee's (Rt. 91 north of I-90)

35055 Maplegrove Rd., Willoughby, OH 44094

Time: 5:30 pm Social | 6:00 pm Dinner Ordered

Reservation: Nancy Fellows 216.952.3044 or

judygreig@sbcglobal.net