

# 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: ctuckerrnfa@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  
*ctuckerrnfa@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, CNOR (2026)  
*qltiger@aol.com*

Theresa Brown BS, RN, CNOR (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*

## COMMUNITY SERVICE



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 Mihu	UH
Jessica Tooley	Assoc.

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 Principles 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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.



NANCY FELLOWS  
2812 FOWLER DRIVE  
WILLOUGHBY HILLS, OH  
44094

[greatercleveland.aorn.org](http://greatercleveland.aorn.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](mailto:moosie324@hotmail.com)

MAR  
21  
2026



### 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](mailto:judygreig@sbcglobal.net)