

# NewsScan

Nov 2025, Volume 52, No.2

Hello Baltimore Chapter 2101,

As I prepare to compose this message, my mind is full with plans for the upcoming holiday season. This is a time of gatherings, of friends and families coming together, of celebrations, and a time to acknowledge and be grateful for all our blessings. I hope that you are able to join in the joy of the season. I know that I am grateful for our camaraderie within our perioperative community, and for all the amazing Perioperative nurses that are part of and help support our Chapter.



The 2025-2026 year is off to a great start. We started in September with a virtual meeting on Tissue Perfusion and how it impacts wound healing, followed by two dinner/hybrid meetings in October and November. Thanks to Terri Ridel and Stryker for sponsoring our amazing dinner meeting at Cured 18/21 in Columbia where we heard about preventing retained surgical items and the advantages of using adjunct technology to assist with this critical patient safety issue.





Then in November, Marvionne Foote and BWMC with support from Baxter provided a delicious dinner for our meeting with a very different focus: Diane Couchman sharing a film and engaging discussion that has been developed as part of the Resilience initiative led by Cynda Rushton, from JHSON, . She encouraged folks to share the video with others to promote conversations amongst nursing colleagues. The video is available free, along with many other resources at: <https://nursing.jhu.edu/r3> . All told, 4 contact hours were awarded those who attended.

As a Chapter we participated as a co-sponsor for the BINGO fundraiser that raised funds for the AORN Foundation. Hopefully you had the opportunity to play along with this fun activity on November 8<sup>th</sup>.



#### Words from AORN:

“Thank you to all our co-sponsoring chapters. Together, our efforts brought a great group together to celebrate the AORN Foundation and spend a relaxing evening competing against each other, laughing, and learning fun facts thanks to our excellent special guest callers.”

- 242 BINGO cards sold
- \$430 in individual donations (Thank you)
- 13 BINGO winners (Congratulations!)

That created a **Grand Total of \$5,500 donated to the AORN Foundation.**

Thanks to Owen and Minor's matching campaign that is doubled for a **\$11,000 impact!**”



We also had a successful fundraiser to support our Chapter Scholarship funds. Thanks once again to Kristy Wheeler for donating the Ravens tickets that we raffled off. The raffle winner was Steve Kelley, husband to our own Henriette Kelley, member of the Nominating committee. We successfully raised **\$1300.00**



The Chapter supported the Kennedy Krieger Institute Festival of Trees by once again entering a tree for display and sale. Thanks to Stephanie for coordinating, to all the members who donated items, and to our fabulous decorating team, Stephanie Reed, Erin German, Linda Kempke and myself. It was amazing teamwork! Tree decorating occurred on 11/22, with the theme "Tickled Pink for the Holidays". I hope some were able to attend the festival to further support Kennedy Krieger and to really get into the holiday spirit. Our tree was sold for **300\$!!**





Jane Flowers, Lisa Myers and I have reviewed the Chapter bylaws as promised, and are suggesting some minor edits. I will present the proposed changes at the January meeting, and then members will have 30 days to review. We will vote on the proposed revisions at the February meeting.

There will be a Board meeting in December at which we will start the discussion about individuals planning to attend EXPO in April, and those requesting financial support from the Chapter. Please start to think about this, and communicate with Lisa Myers if you are planning to attend EXPO and would like Chapter support.

Upcoming in the new year, we start with a virtual meeting in January, sponsored by Erin German, with a speaker from Infinite Legacy. Topics for February and March are pending, April brings EXPO in New Orleans, and May will be our annual induction of officers celebration held at the Light House Bistro.

### **National is continuing to encourage efforts to grow our Chapter membership: the AORN Rise to 25 Initiative**

- Goal is to grow membership by 25% over the year
- Awards are being offered with monthly incentives and overall winners at the end of the campaign
- Consider encouraging individuals to sign up for a trial membership for \$1.
- Or the new RN member rate for the first 3 years.

#### **-New to profession membership:**

- \*First year is \$50
- \*Years two & three are \$99
- Regular membership: \$11.99/month or \$125 annually
- Let's strive at your local facilities to encourage recruitment

I hope, as winter arrives that you all stay safe and warm, and take care of yourselves and others. Looking forward to seeing you all in the 2026!

Greetings,

Marie Wells MS, RN, CNOR

President, AORN Baltimore # 2101, 2025-2026

## Reminder:

Nursing Network available at: ***Nursingnetwork.com***

Log in or set up your account as an AORN member to stay up to date on the latest happenings within the chapter and beyond (this has replaced OR nurse link). Under “My Groups” access information to events, newsletters, treasurers report, education and so much more for the Baltimore Chapter!

The screenshot shows the Nursing Network website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: My Groups, My Home, Log Out. Below this is a header with the Nursing Network logo and a tagline: "Nursing Network is the professional network connecting nurses with the groups they belong to, colleagues they support, and resources they need." A green button labeled "My account home" is visible. The main content area is titled "What's Happening on Nursing Network?" and features four cards with icons and statistics:

- Nursing Events:** 687. Locating upcoming nursing events has never been simpler. Search the largest directory of national, statewide and local nursing events online. [Search events button]
- Nursing Jobs:** 8,296. Our niche network specializes in the highest quality career opportunities. Search our national collection of nursing jobs and land the perfect position. [Search jobs button]
- Nursing Industry Updates:** 27,166. Connect to the largest source of real time nursing news. All posted by top association board members and delivered directly to your inbox. [Join now button]
- Nursing Associations:** 926. Find and follow associations that matter to you and receive the latest news and announcements, event invites, and important association communication. [Search associations button]

The screenshot shows the AORN Baltimore Chapter website. The header includes the AORN logo with the tagline "SAFE SURGERY TOGETHER" and "Baltimore CHAPTER 2101". Below the header, there's a "Stay Connected" section with "Following" and "Active Member" buttons. A sidebar on the left contains a "Moderator Control Panel" and a list of links: Home, About Us, News & Announcements, Upcoming Events, Career Center, Photo Galleries, Preceptor Directory, Meeting Minutes, Contact Us, and Association of periOperative Registered Nurses. The main content area is titled "AORN Baltimore Chapter" and includes a description of the association's mission. Below this is a promotional banner for "eCount Surgical" and "Take the Free 2-Unit CEU SureCountSurgical.com". A social media bar includes links to Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and a "Join AORN!" button. The "Recent News & Announcements" section features two posts: "Chapter Meeting March" and "Baltimore Chapter February Meeting".

**AORN Baltimore Chapter**

The Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) aims to unite registered nurses in maintaining the highest professional standards of perioperative nursing practice to encourage optimal care of the patient before, during and after operative and other invasive procedures.

**eCount Surgical** **Take the Free 2-Unit CEU SureCountSurgical.com**

Facebook Instagram LinkedIn YouTube Join AORN!

**Recent News & Announcements**

**Chapter Meeting March**  
Please join the Baltimore Chapter of AORN, #2101, for our monthly meeting. The speaker is Heidi Nanavati, MSN, CRNP, CNOR. Heidi will be speaking...  
Posted by [Terri Ridel](#)

**Baltimore Chapter February Meeting**  
Due to the winter weather advisory, tomorrow's meeting will be virtual ONLY, for everyone's safety. Please join us at 6pm Tuesday February 11th via...  
Posted by [Marie Wells](#) in [Meeting Update](#)

[View all news & announcements →](#)

**Upcoming Events**



## In This Issue:

- ♦ Nursing Network
- ♦ Leaders 2025-2026
- ♦ Yearly calendar
- ♦ Editors Report

## Monthly Meeting Update

Baltimore AORN will have meetings both virtually and in-person

Links will be available on the emailed flyers, Nursing Network and FB

CHs will be available depending on the educational offering

Thank you all again for your willingness to stay a part of AORN!

## *Secretary's Minutes*

*Completed version submitted by Shruti Thomas, et al, are reviewed & approved by an AORN committee then posted on Nursing Network under Meeting Minutes.*

*Please see electronic minutes for information regarding previous meetings.*

## Treasurers Report

Will be posted to the New Nursing Network web page,  
**Nursingnetwork.com.**

Once you have created your log-in and have "AORN Baltimore Chapter" as one of your groups, the treasurers report will be found in a folder under

## *Media Library*

Any questions about navigation, please reach out. Thank you



# AORN of Baltimore Leaders 2025-2026

♦ **President:** Marie Wells

*\*President Elect: Lisa Myers*

♦ **Secretary:** Shruti Thomas

♦ **Treasurer:** Beverly Stiles

♦ **Education:** Kristy Wheeler (she would like a friend)

♦ **Board of Directors:** Linda Kempske

Lamoan Brown

Barb Nalley

♦ **Nominating Committee:** Racheal Skbrin

Kristen Kraus

Henrietta Kelly

Terri Ridel (non-voting member)

♦ **Fundraising Committee:** Barb Nalley, Jane Flowers, Linda Kempske

♦ **Scholarship Committee:** Terri Ridel, Tracey Penaloza, Kristy Wheeler



*\*Not all newly elected leaders were present.*

## Greetings from your 2025-2026 AORN Board of Directors!



*\*Top Row Left -Right: Rebecca Vortman, Hung-Fu Lin, J.D. Buchert, Debra Callender, Leigh Anne Bartlett, Nikki Washington, Daphny Peneza*

*\*Bottom Row Left -Right: Brenda Larkin, Jaimie Ridout, Darlene Murdock, David Reinhardt, Laura Gayton*



# AORN Yearly Calendar of Events

## January 2026

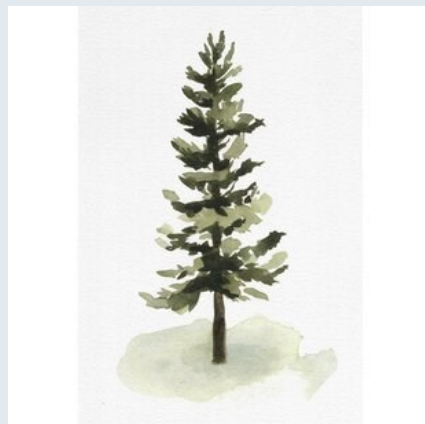
Business and Education	Community and Social
1/13	
Erin German: Carroll (tentative)	
Topic: Infinite Legacy CEs needed	

## February 2026

Business and Education	Community and Social
2/10	
Brenda Nack JH	
Topic:	

## March 2026

Business and Education	Community and Social
Stephanie Reed: UMMC	
Topic	



### April 2026

Business and Education	Community and Social
EXPO April 11-14 New Orleans	

### May 2026

Business and Education	Community and Social
5/12	
Nurses Week/Induction	
Lighthouse Bistro Baxter sponsoring	

### June 2026

Business and Education	Community and Social



## Editor's Report

Greetings members,

As we step into a fresh year together, I want to thank each of you for the incredible work you do every day in the OR and beyond. Our chapter is strong because of your dedication, teamwork, and commitment to patient care. This year, let's keep building on that energy with new opportunities to learn, connect, and support one another.

I'd also love to highlight *you* in our upcoming newsletters! Please remember to send in photos, stories, or accomplishments from your OR setting—whether it's a team celebration, a milestone, or simply a moment you're proud of. Sharing these wins not only recognizes your hard work, but also inspires and encourages others.

Here's to a year of growth, connection, and celebrating all the amazing things happening in our chapter!

Fondly,

Erin German, RN, BSN, CNOR

[egerman@lifebridgehealth.org](mailto:egerman@lifebridgehealth.org)

