



Bee-Lieve in Your Impact

Empowering nurses to recognize
their influence on patient care
and the profession.

**Saturday,
March 14, 2026**

**KSU Center
3333 Busbee Drive NW
Kennesaw, GA 30144**

Agenda

7:00 am – 7:45 am	Registration <i>Continental Breakfast Vendor Fair</i>
7:45 am – 8:00 am	Welcome <i>Patti Cox, President-Elect of Northwest Georgia AORN</i>
8:00 am – 9:00 am	AI in Action: Practical Strategies for Perioperative Nurses, Educators, Managers, and Leaders <i>Stella Yau, MSN, RN, CNOR</i>
9:00 am – 9:30 am	<i>Break and Vendor Fair</i>
9:30 am – 10:30 am	Can Implicit Trust in Our ASC Team Lead to Medical Errors <i>Jamie Ridout, MSN, MBA, RN, CNOR, CASC, NEA-BC</i>
10:30 am – 11:00 am	<i>Break and Vendor Fair</i>
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	The Evidence of the Munro Scale: From Concept to Clinical Practice <i>Cassandra A. Munro, PhD, RN, RNFA, CNOR, FAORN, FAAN</i>
12:00 pm –1:00 pm	<i>Lunch and Vendor Fair</i>
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Cultivating Excellence in Perioperative Nursing: My Insights and Qualitative Perspectives <i>Cassandra A. Munro, PhD, RN, RNFA, CNOR, FAORN, FAAN</i>
2:00 pm – 2:15 pm	<i>Break, Silent Auction Closes, and 50/50 Drawing</i>
2:15 pm – 3:15 pm	The Buzz About Males in Nursing <i>James “Jay” Bowers, BSN, RN, CNOR, TNCC</i>
3:15 pm – 4:15 pm	Stop, Refuel, Move Forward: Cultivating Resilience to Thrive in Nursing <i>Teshieka K. “TK” Curtis-Pugh, MSN, RN, CMSRN, RN-BC, NPD, CRRN</i>
4:15 pm	Wrap Up and Closing Remarks <i>Holly Irvine, Board Member of Northwest Georgia AORN</i>

**This Educational Offering is
co-sponsored by**



**Chapters #1101 – Atlanta,
#1107 – Northwest Georgia and
#1116 – Peach State**



and



Hotel Information

A block of rooms has been reserved at:
**Fairfield by Marriott Inn & Suites Atlanta
Kennesaw**
3425 Busbee Drive
Kennesaw, GA 30144
770-425-5600

1 – King: \$109 + tax
2 – Queen: \$109 + tax
for the night of March 13, 2026
Reserve on or before February 13, 2026

Booking Link:

[Book your group rate for AORN](#)

Get to Know the Speakers

James “Jay” Bowers, BSN, RN, CNOR, TNCC is a multiple Service Line Coordinator and Supervisor for WVU Medicine, West Virginia University Health System in Morgantown, West Virginia. An accomplished national speaker, Jay has presented on a variety of topics including trauma, men in nursing, and other clinical specialties. Certified as both an Operating Room Nurse and Trauma Nurse, Jay brings a wealth of expertise to his role. His commitment to service extends far beyond the hospital—he volunteers annually with the Diabetes Camp of West Virginia, the Red Cross, and the West Virginia Special Olympics, and has participated in numerous surgical mission trips to underserved countries. Jay has also been a dedicated leader within AORN, serving as an elected member of the National Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors. In recognition of his contributions of time, talent, and financial support, he was honored with the AORN Foundation Nurse Philanthropist Award in 2023.

Teshieka K. Curtis-Pugh, MSN, RN, CMSRN, RN-BC, NPD, CRRN, affectionately known as T.K., is the Executive Director of the South Carolina Nurses Association. Rising from Certified Nursing Assistant to Chief Nursing Officer—and now leading one of the state’s most influential nursing organizations—T.K. represents over 90,000 nurses through her work in advocacy, education, and professional development. Her inspiring presentation, *Stop, Refuel, Move Forward*, offers a powerful exploration of burnout and compassion fatigue through the personal lens of her journey from CNA to CNO. Blending real-life stories with practical strategies, she guides audiences to recognize the warning signs, reclaim their energy, and move forward with renewed purpose and resilience.

Cassandra A. Munro, PhD, RN, RNFA, CNOR, FAORN, FAAN has been a perioperative nurse for over 26 years and a member of AORN for over 24 years. Currently, she is a Nurse Scientist at Stanford Health Care, Office of Research, Patient Care Services in Menlo Park, CA and she is a perioperative practice expert consultant through Munro Consulting. She developed and validated the Munro Pressure Injury Risk Assessment Scale for Perioperative Patients (Munro Scale) and the CMUNRO SCALE curriculum. And Dr. Munro is the 2023 recipient of the AORN Excellence in Perioperative Nursing Award, the highest honor bestowed by AORN recognizing an individual whose work and accomplishments has had global implications on perioperative nursing in the areas of practice, education, and research. In October 2023 she was inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and as a Fellow of AORN. She believes divine destiny and intertwine has guided her purpose driven life. Cassandra is currently on the AORN National Ballot for the position of Secretary.

Jamie Ridout, MSN, MBA, RN, CNOR, CASC, NEA-BC Jamie Ridout, MSN, MBA, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC, CASC, is the system vice president of Perioperative Nursing Practice for Geisinger Health System in Central and Northeastern Pennsylvania. In her role, Jamie oversees perioperative practice for nine hospitals and four ASCs. Ridout has over 32 years of perioperative experience and 25 years leadership in both inpatient and outpatient facilities. Ridout serves as AORN National Vice President and is on the ballot for AORN

National President Elect. She is a member of the Capital North Carolina Chapter (3413). She served three terms as President of the North Carolina State Ambulatory Surgery Center Association. Ridout holds CNOR, NEA-BC and CASC certifications. She received her BSN at West Virginia University in 1993, MSN at Duke University in 2000 and MBA at Elon University in 2014. She resides in Cary, NC.

Stella Yau, MSN, RN, CNOR is a perioperative nurse, leader, educator, and clinical research professional with more than 22 years of nursing experience, including over 16 years in the perioperative setting. She currently works at Kaiser Permanente’s Garfield Specialty Center in Southern California, where she brings frontline surgical insight together with evidence-based practice to support safe, high-quality patient care. Stella holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Master of Science in Nursing Education from Capella University. She is passionate about bridging the gap between clinical practice, education, and research—ensuring that new evidence, technology, and policy translate into real-world improvements for perioperative teams. A highly engaged leader within the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN), Stella serves at the national, state, and chapter level.

6.0 ANA Contact Hours Applied For through Wellstar Health System.

We Accept the Following Cards:



Send registration & payment to:

Holly Ervine
Seminar Committee
306 Susie Creek Lane
Villa Rica, Georgia 30180

Registration is **OPEN** on
our Nursing Network page!
gacouncilaorn.nursingnet
work.com

OR fill out the below form and mail it in.

Registration Form

Please **PRINT!!!**

Checks should be made payable to
Georgia Council or periOperative Registered
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- ☐ Registration ~ \$75.00
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be added to your price of registration
if using a credit card to pay.**