



2026 NEAOHN NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE

NEAOHN CANDIDATE: PRESIDENT



BECKIE ODELL-BETHEL, RN, BSN, COHN-S

Biographical Statement

I would like to formally submit my name in nomination for the position as President of the Northeast Association of Occupational Health Nurses.

- I have been a nurse since 2011 and started working in Occupational Health in 2018. I have experience working in hospital settings and various manufacturing facilities.
- I currently work as an Occupational Health Nurse Specialist for Proactive MD, overseeing the OSHA compliance in Occupational Health clinics nationwide.
- I've been a COHN-S since 2022 and have continued education in the field of Occupational Health and Safety with classes at the University of Michigan and OSHA Region 1 at Keene State.
- I've served as NEAOHN President since August 2025. Prior to that, I held the position of Vice President from January 2025 to August 2025.
- By submitting my name in nomination for NEAOHN President, it would be my sincere honor and privilege to continue to serve our occupational health nursing community through innovative mentorship, education, and networking. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beckie Odell Bethel, RN, BSN, COHN-S

NEAOHN CANDIDATE: VICE PRESIDENT

CARIN BENNETT-RIZZO, MS, RN, COHN-S/CM, NEA-BC

Biographical Statement

My name is Carin Bennett-Rizzo, and I am interested in the Vice President role in the Northeast Association of Occupational Health Nurses. I am interested in my professional knowledge and experience to recruit, engage, and support nurses interested in occupational health nursing practice and for those that are already in practice.

NEAOHN has rich history of supporting occupational health nurses, this is essential to maintain and grow. This in turn helps to support workers' health, safety and wellbeing; in a time that federal policies, research, and regulations are being eroded and corporate profits may not be focused on the care of their workers.

I am currently the Director of Occupational Health Services at Boston Children's Hospital, with the benefit of 26 years of nursing experience, 19 years in occupational health nursing, and 13 years of occupational health leadership experience. My occupational health nursing experience has been hospital based, focused on both providing direct care as a NP, then moving into a leadership role, focused on demonstrating how occupational health nursing is essential to supporting the health and wellbeing of the workforce.

I am energized by developing and supporting occupational health nursing practice in nurses new to OHN practice. At Boston Children's Hospital, I have been had the benefit of building a team of 10 nurses, most who were new to occupational health nursing, helping them develop their knowledge and practice. We have used the AAOHN OHN core curriculum and competencies to develop our OHN orientation. We are using this same framework with NP students and are working on developing a RN Senior Practicum experience.

I am currently enrolled in a DNP program at UMass Lowell, with a research interest of disabilities in healthcare workers, quality of life in nurses working shifts, and the motivation for practice change in nursing to decrease work injuries.

I have experience servicing on boards and committees, focusing on professional and personal interests. These include:

- American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN): Member
 - Education Committee Member: 2023- present
 - Conference Committee Member: 2026- present
- Massachusetts Association of Occupational Health Nurses (MaAOHN): 2010-present
 - Executive Board Member: Nominating Committee 2010- 2017
- American Board of Occupational Health Nurses (ABOHN)
 - EDAC Committee Member: 2026- present
- Massachusetts Coalition of Nurse Practitioners (MCNP): Executive Board Member: Regional Representative 2008- 2015, Chair North of Boston Chapter 2010-2013

Personal

- Board of Directors- Sole Sisters Running Club, (501c3) 2016-2026
 - Secretary 2016-2018
 - President 2019-2023
 - Volunteer Coordinator 2023-2025
 - SOLEstice 5K Co-Race Director 2024, 2025

I believe that I have a personal and professional responsibility to give back to organizations that have supported me, like NEAOHN. The role of Vice President for NEAOHN would allow me to support the important mission of NEAOHN, the members, and continue and build on the work that past Boards have accomplished.

With gratitude,
Carin Bennett-Rizzo



NEAOHN CANDIDATE: SECRETARY

KAITLIN MACDONALD, DNP, ANP-BC, COHN-S ***Biographical Statement***

My name is Kaitlin Macdonald, and I would like to submit my name for **Secretary** in the Northeast Association of Occupational Health Nurses. My first experience with occupational health was during my BSN program when I had my Community Health clinical rotation at the Newport Hospital Occupational Health clinic. I truly enjoyed learning about how each person's role placed them in unique risk categories and how occupational health is aimed at protecting them from those risks through pre-placement exams, fit testing, audiograms, and more. I then took advantage of an occupational health track during my Adult Nurse Practitioner Program at Simmons College and completed a concentration in occupational health at the Harvard School of Public Health. After graduating, I worked as an Occupational Health Nurse Practitioner, mainly seeing workers' compensation cases, at Brigham and Women's Hospital. I then became the Newton-Wellesley Hospital Occupational Health Director before being promoted to the Massachusetts General Hospital Occupational Health Director. I am now the Occupational Health Director for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. I have completed my COHN-S and recently graduated from Simmons University with my DNP. I was previously on the Nominating Committee for the Massachusetts Association of Occupational Health Nurses.

Re-engaging in an occupational health nursing organization is important to me. Occupational Health has traditionally been a lesser-known specialty. While the COVID pandemic raised awareness and highlighted the importance of Occupational Health, it is essential that we continue to elevate our specialty. We have an obligation to engage in advocacy and policy work, network, provide continuing education and collaborate with other disciplines. It is also important that we mentor and support the next generation of occupational health nurses.

Thank you for your consideration,
Kaitlin Macdonald

NEAOHN CANDIDATE: TREASURER**Brooklyn Shatney**
Biographical Statement

Hello, my name is **Brooklyn Shatney**, and I am self-nominating to continue serving as Treasurer for NEAOHN for the 2026–2027 term.

I joined the NEAOHN Board in January 2025 in the Secretary role. Through my work with the Board, I was given the opportunity to transition into the Treasurer role, allowing me to expand my experience and further support the organization. I accepted this role, and the official transition occurred in October 2025. Serving as Treasurer has provided me with an understanding of NEAOHN's financial operations and has allowed me to contribute to maintaining accurate and organized financial records.

In addition to my role with NEAOHN, I currently serve as Treasurer for NHAOHN. These experiences have strengthened my organizational skills, attention to detail, and commitment to supporting professional nursing organizations.

I have worked at Millipore Sigma in their Occupational Health department for just under ten years, beginning as an LNA/EMT in the office. I obtained my RN in 2023 and am currently pursuing my Certification in Occupational Health Nursing (COHN). Before finding my career in Occupational Health I was working as an EMT for my local fire department and as an LNA at a nursing home.

I am seeking to continue in the Treasurer position to provide consistency, continuity, and dedicated service to NEAOHN. It would be an honor to continue working alongside the Board and serving the members of NEAOHN.

Thank you,

Brooklyn Shatney, RN

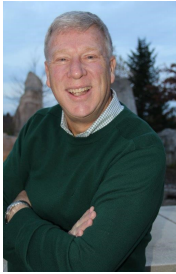
CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

EVERETT C SPARKS, BSN, RN, (former COHN-S/CM, WCCM - Retired)

114 Bickford Place, Belgrade, Maine
everett.sparks1952@gmail.com

Biographical Statement

BRIEF PROFESSIONAL CV:



- 1977: BSN – Rutgers University
- 1977 – 1982 Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Rehabilitation, Critical Care, FT/PT
- 1979: Sun Shipbuilding, Staff Occupational Health Nurse, FT
- 1983 – 1986 Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Phila: Critical Care Float, per diem.
- 1980 – 2006: DuPont Company, Multiple Industrial Plants & Corporate OH services.
- 2006 – 2018: W.L. Gore, (Polymer Products/ Gortex-Fabrics divisions) OHN and WCCM, FT.

Professional License:

Current

State of Maine, RN Compact License

Interim Part Time OH Employments

Sun Chemical, Limerick Nuclear, Three Mile Island Nuclear; New Jersey Corrections; Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital – critical care per diem; Foundation Health Care Insurance telephone triage nurse; Riverfront Urgent Care, per diem.

Professional Organizations

- Career long Delaware Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Past President x3, Secretary, Director.
- Career-long NEAOHN member, Director, Nominations Committee, Volunteer.
- Current NEAOHN SurveyMonkey coordinator: Surveys and Webinar evaluations.

Active Volunteer

- Salem County Sportsmen's Club, New Jersey: Lifetime Member Honoree; former VP, Secretary, Director, Current newsletter/ historian.
- Maryland Medical Reserve Corp, 2019 – 2023.
- Maine Medical Reserve Corp, 2023 – current.
- St. George Greek Orthodox Church member/volunteer, Bethesda, Maryland and Bangor, Maine.
- Bickford Place Road Association, Maine: Past President, current secretary.
- 7-Lakes Alliance, Lake Invasive Aquatic Plant (IAP) survey volunteer.
- American Red Cross – Regular blood donor.

Awards

- Three-time Medique Awardee
- 2025 NEAOHN Leadership Award.

I respectfully submit my name in nomination to continue to serve NEAOHN on its Nominations Committee.

Professional Regards,

Everett Sparks, BSN, RN