



SPRING 2026

AORN Richmond Area 4702

SHARP LINES NEWSLETTER

Tori Hylton

President's Message

It has been such a pleasure serving as president of AORN Richmond this past year. We've had a wonderful year filled with educational dinner meetings, volunteer events, donation drives, conferences, and fun times with nursing friends. It made me happy to see a lot of new faces at our monthly dinner meetings and we hope this trend continues. We would love to have more people join our chapter and get involved with our committees. Nurses do amazing things and we can do more together!

The AORN Global Surgical Conference and Expo in New Orleans, LA in April was awesome! It's such a great time for networking, learning new skills, and continuing to be inspired about perioperative nursing. Our chapter sends delegates every year to the conference. Make sure to complete the delegate selection point sheet by June 1st if you're interested in going to Philadelphia, PA next year. We also have a scholarship for first-time attendees. You can find these forms on our Nursing Network website in the Resources/Forms section.

I want to thank all the AORN Richmond officers and committee chairs for all their hard work this past year. We have an amazing chapter, which was rated 5-stars by National AORN (16 out of 200+ chapters received this award). We earned this title through teamwork and dedication.

I'm excited for next year and hope to see you at a Summer of Fun event or chapter meeting.

Jessica Ooms

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Jessica Ooms, BSN, RN, CNOR

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Chante Logan, DNP, RN, CNOR

VICE PRESIDENT

Zelika Hargrove, DNP, RN, CNOR,
CSSM, NPD-BC

SECRETARY

Laurie Dameron, BSN, RN, CNOR

TREASURER

Amanda Ringhoff, MSN, MBA, RN,
CNOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Imani Bogle, BSN, RN, CFPN

Tori Hylton, RN

Kaytie Loving, BSN, RN

Sheila Walker, BSN, RN, CNOR

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sheila Flores, BSN, RN, CNOR, RNFA

Meghan Hamlin, BSN, RN, CSRN

Nicole Meredith, BSN, RN, CNOR, CSSM

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Meetings are usually hosted by a vendor at a restaurant. Stay up to date by looking at our Nursing Network site and Instagram.

May 18 Installation of Officers at Hondos

September 21

October 19

November 16

December Holiday Social



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the Reinhart Guest House,
1100 Libbie Ave, Richmond VA 23226
from 6-7:30pm

August 10

January 11

September 14

March 8

November 9

May 10

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Awards

Donna Winderweedle

Education

Zelika Hargrove

Legislative

Christina Pond

Marketing

Kaytie Loving

Membership

Sheila Walker

Policy and Bylaws

Laurie Dameron

Ways and Means

Zelika Hargrove

Research

Chante Logan

Social Media

Imani Bogle

UPCOMING EVENTS



Backpack Drive



AORN Richmond Summer of FUN!

See flyers at end of newsletter for details!

Meet our Secretary!

Q & A with Laurie Dameron

How long have you been involved with AORN Richmond Chapter?

I went to my first AORN meeting in 2016 and became a member of the Richmond chapter. I started going regularly after Covid in 2021.

How long have you been an OR Nurse?

I have been an OR nurse for 26 years.

What is your favorite service line?

I am the plastics, dental, and ophthalmology coordinator at St. Mary's, but my passion has always been pediatrics. Trying to make the OR a less scary place for these kids has always been my goal.

What are your hobbies?

I love to travel, especially to warmer places. In the past two years I have been able to merge my love of travel and pediatrics. I have had the privilege of being a part of the pediatric general surgery team and travel to Belize with World Pediatrics. I feel so blessed to have had the opportunities I have had with AORN and my nursing career.

What's one of your favorite things about being involved with AORN?

AORN has inspired real change at a local level here in Richmond. I was part of the Go Clear team that created a smoke-free surgical environment for St. Mary's Hospital, which inspired other hospitals. This change then lead to creating and proposing a Smoke Free bill for the state of VA that AORN National helped us get initiated. Our team and fellow AORN members then went to Lobby Day and voiced their concerns with lobbyists, senators, and representatives. VA became the 14th state to go smoke-free. I am so proud to be a part of this important initiative for our perioperative nurses.



VCORN
Conference & Workshop
Saturday, February 20, 2027
Richmond, VA

Awards Committee Update

Application Deadline !

Mary C. Evans Scholarship Award First-Time Attendee Scholarship 2026-27



It's time to submit the delegate selection form if you're interested in being a delegate at the National AORN Conference and Expo in Philadelphia, PA from April 10-13, 2027. If you're not exactly sure if you can go, submit the form anyway! You can always decide later, but forms need to be submitted by June 1. The National AORN Conference and Expo is always such a fun time full of interesting education classes, seminars, vendor exhibits, and fellowship with your nursing friends. Our chapter has spots for seven delegates and we hope that you will consider being one of them!

It's also time to submit applications for the First-Time Attendee Scholarship. This is a \$1,000 scholarship offered by our chapter to send a chapter member to the National Conference and Expo for the first time. The application is quick and simple: write a 300-word essay answering a few questions for why you should be selected for this scholarship. Questions are included on the application form.

Do you know a nurse who has gone above and beyond for our chapter and deserves recognition? If so, please fill out a Mary C. Evans Nomination form so this wonderful person can be recognized and rewarded with \$1,000 to attend the National AORN Conference & Expo or use the money to advance their nursing career.

All forms are due June 1st and should be submitted to AornRichmond4702@yahoo.com. If you have any questions or need help with completing the forms, please reach out to Jessica Ooms.

The forms can be found on our Nursing Network page under the Resources ---> Forms section on aornrichmond.nursingnetwork.com



Membership Update

250 Members

Renew or change your Membership type!

<https://www.aorn.org/membership/types-of-membership>

If you have an issue with joining or renewal contact AORN customer service @ 1-800-755-2676, choose option #7 or email custsvc@aorn.org

New members are always welcome - bring a friend to the meetings!

MARKETING REPORT

Kaytie Loving

Please help our chapter collect
CLEAR backpacks and/or school
supplies for under-privileged
students in Petersburg City Schools!

Items to be donated:

CLEAR backpacks	highlighters
pencils	pencil cases
pens	dry erase markers
erasers	glue sticks
markers	folders
crayons	

Bring items to the chapter meeting
on May 18 or send us an email to
coordinate your donations. We're
collecting until mid-July.

BACKPACK DRIVE!



*Become more active with AORN
Richmond &
join a committee*

*Awards
Education
Legislation
Marketing/Volunteering
Membership
Research
Policy & Bylaws
Social Media*

*send an email to
aornrichmond4702@yahoo.com and
we'll get you connected*

Research Committee Update

During the March committee meeting, they successfully reviewed Chante Logan's upcoming VCU PowerPoint presentation and continued the discussion on greater team engagement.

The May meeting will focus on expanding speaking engagements and fostering deeper nurse involvement both professionally and within our local chapter.

In Loving Memory

Our Chapter was proud to present a check to the AORN Foundation at the National Conference in memory of those who served beside us.



~ Click on their name to read the obituary

[Nancy Halbert](#), past AORN Richmond President (1973-75, 1987-88) & past AORN National Treasurer

[Ruth Vaiden](#), past AORN National President (1985-86) & AORN Richmond President (1975-77, 2005-06)

[Mary Jane Cook](#), past AORN Richmond President (1988-89)

[Bob Hale](#), sales rep who supported our chapter a lot over the years, especially in the beginning



2026 AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo

New Orleans, LA



AORN Richmond



June 11

Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game new CarMax Park

Playing against the Harrisburg Senators
College of William & Mary Night
First Pitch 7:05pm and Fireworks

July 19

Christmas in July Artisan Market Main Line Brewery, 1-5pm

Go Christmas shopping in flip flops
Live Music
1603 Ownby Lane Richmond, VA, 23220

August 8

Jolene Winery

2750 Pocahontas Trail, Quinton, VA 23141

If you're interested in joining an event, please let us know. Send us an email, aornrichmond4702@yahoo.com or register on our Nursing Network website, aornrichmond.nursingnetwork.com

AORN RICHMOND'S SCHOOL DONATION DRIVE

We're organizing a donation drive to provide essential school supplies for underprivileged students and make a difference! We are collecting **clear** backpacks with school supplies inside. More details at next month's meeting

**BRING SUPPLIES TO MAY
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
MEETING**

MAY 18TH, 2026

CONNECT WITH OUR CHAPTER !



Richmond Chapter Aorn



@aornrichmond4702

NEWSLETTER UPDATES

If you have any updates or information that you would like to include in the newsletter, please email Tori Hylton @ aornrichmond4702@yahoo.com



Be an advocate. Together we can make the profession stronger and our patients safer.