



WONL August 2026 News

Horizons

Message from Our President

Advancing Nurse Leaders

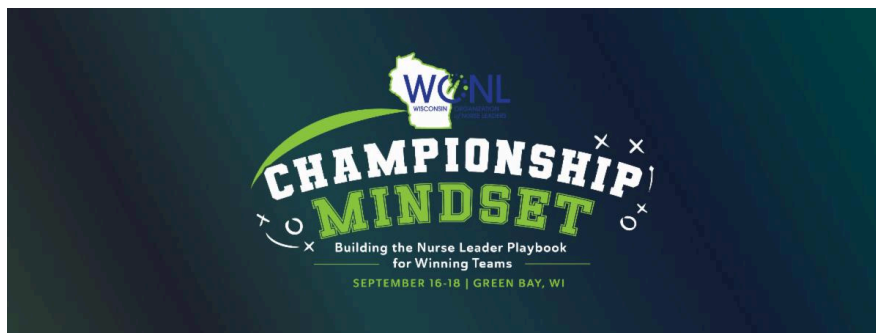
By: Dennise L. | WONL President



Dear WONL Members and Colleagues,

As summer draws to a close, I continue to be inspired by the passion, innovation, and unwavering commitment of nurse leaders across Wisconsin. Every conversation, partnership, and initiative over the past several months has reinforced the strength of our profession and the vital role WONL plays.

- Our strategic plan is **delivering results**. WONL continues to make meaningful progress across its three strategic priorities—supporting the healthcare workforce, advancing advocacy, and strengthening nursing leadership.
- **Advocating for Wisconsin's nurses**. From AONL Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., to partnerships across the state, WONL is helping shape policies and initiatives that strengthen the nursing profession while improving health outcomes. I had the privilege of serve as the featured speaker for the WisPAN Gala highlighting nurse wellbeing, resilience and peer support. Full Article [here](#)
- **Investing in leadership and workforce development**. Through the Learning Community Series, clinical-academic partnerships, workforce initiatives, and other opportunities, WONL is building the next generation of nurse leaders.
- **Strengthening WONL for the future**. A new partnership with Badger Bay Management Company will enhance member engagement, communications, and operational support/structure, positioning WONL for continued growth and impact.
- **Looking ahead**. Read [continued updates](#) in our resources tab on accomplishments and the momentum leading into the Annual Conference in Green Bay.



Registration is open for the WONL Annual Conference!

Championship Mindset: Building a Nurse Leader Playbook for Winning Teams

The 2026 Annual Conference will be held September 16-18, 2026, at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Hotel in Green Bay. We are excited to welcome nurse leaders from around the state to advance nurse leadership. Join us for the Tailgate Welcome Reception at Lambeau Field followed by two days of engaging professional development! The deadline to register is September 9.

[Learn more & register here](#)

Spotlight on our New Members

Welcome. Thank you. And let's continue to lead forward - together.

Sara Presteen
Victoria Varsho
Lauren Snyder
Robin Schultz
Elizabeth Johnson

Nancy Korom
Kate Bonner
Autumn Stoflet
Kathy Sellner
Martina Anyinofu

Brenda Hall
Amanda Czerniewski
Lauren Holloman
Oliva La Barbera
Kae Lee Dahl

WONL License Plate Update

Celebrate a Nurse
By: Sharon W. | License Plate Chairperson

Congratulations to our License Plate Committee on an outstanding achievement! They closed out the fiscal year with **\$42,479** in revenue for the DOT Division of Motor Vehicles license plate program, surpassing the stretch goal of \$42,000.

You can show your support by ordering a **"Nurses Change Lives"** license plate online or at any DMV office. Personalization is optional, but makes it easy to display your nurse pride.



Order Plates
Here

AONL Advocacy Day | WONL represented Wisconsin

Support the Healthcare Workforce

The Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Leaders (WONL) proudly represented Wisconsin at the American Organization for Nursing Leadership (AONL) Advocacy Day held June 1–2, 2026, in Washington, D.C. Nearly 300 nurse leaders from 41 states gathered to advocate for policies that strengthen the nursing profession, improve patient care, and support the nation's healthcare workforce. Read entire article [here](#)

Call for Board Nominations

Help Shape the Future of WONL
By: Laura H. | Nominations Chairperson

- Nominations are now open for:
- President Elect (1-year term)
 - Treasurer (2-year term)
 - (4) At-Large Directors (2-year term)



Candidates must be active or current WONL members in good standing in the state of Wisconsin. Board members set organizational priorities, address emerging issues, and advocate for members and their nurse teams. The board meets six times a year in person (virtual option available), which includes an annual strategic planning meeting in November. Board members also support a sub-committee, membership, annual conference, and retention efforts. Board members are asked to host or co-host a board meeting in their local community. Mileage reimbursement is provided when traveling for in-person meetings.

Click here for the description of positions. Nomination deadline is Wednesday, August 26 and voting will happen first two weeks of September. Interested? [Submit your Name](#) or have questions email wonl@badgerbay.co (not com).

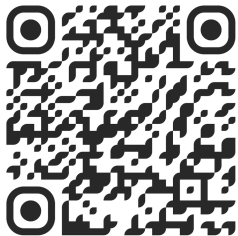


WONL Merchandise Available

United by Our Mission

By: Annye Graff | Communications Chairperson

The new WONL Merchandise Store is now open! Shop a variety of styles and colors in men's, women's or unisex. See the [WONL site](#) to order or scan the QR below. Order by August 9 and pick-up will be available at the conference.



Upcoming Events | Education

WEBINARS

Bridging Academia & Practice Using a Co-Instructor Adjunct Model | Aug 11

Leading the Way: Best Practices in Falls Prevention | September 8

Register: [HERE](#)

2026 WONL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Champion Mindset: Building a Nurse Playbook for Winning Teams
September 16-18 | Green Bay WI
Register: [HERE](#)



Badger Bay Management Company | 563 Carter Court Suite B | Kimberly, WI 54136 US

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