

Attention: I was recently informed that many of you did not receive the March newsletter. Even though it's almost time for the April edition, I wanted to share the information from the March issue with you. Sorry for the delay, we're working on some computer issues that we hope will be resolved soon.

The transition of the Traverse City office to Lansing are now nearly complete. The new address is PO Box 11180, Lansing, MI 48901 and the new phone number is 517/445-7471. Thank you for your patience as we complete this process.

--Mary Scoblic, Editor



News and Musings

March 2009

UPCOMING RN-AIM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

As mentioned in the initial News and Musings you received last month, RN-AIM will hold its annual conference October 8-9, 2009, at the Inn at St. Johns in Canton, Michigan. The Region 7 committee has nearly finalized the schedule and you will be receiving a "Save the Date" card soon.

The conference title is "**Creating a Healthy and Empowered Work Environment: The Recipe Every Nurse Needs to Know.**" Kathy Vollman, MSN, RN, CCNS, FCCM, will present "Examining Nursing's Unique Contributions to Health Care; If Florence Only Knew." In addition to Kathy's presentation, there will be sessions on:

- Assuring Patient and Caregiver Satisfaction –
- The Economics of Weight Management –
- Pain Management of the Dying Patient –
- Generational Learning Styles of Nurses –

plus Council meetings, and Focus Groups to discuss the future of RN-AIM. It will be an exciting 1.5 days and we look forward to seeing you this October. You don't want to miss this.

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NURSING SUPER SUMMIT – 2009

Planning also continues with MONE (Michigan Organization of Nursing Executives), the Michigan Center for Nursing and the Michigan League for Nursing for the 2009 Michigan Nursing Super Summit on August 4-5 at the Sheraton Hotel in Lansing.*

A preconference day will be held on August 3rd, titled "Sharing the Sandbox". The keynote will be Pam Jeffries, DNS, RN, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. Several presentations on technology/simulation will follow throughout the day.

The title of the Summit this year is "Joining Forces for Change." The keynote will be presented by Suzanne Gordon, award winning journalist. Her presentation title is "Nursing: The Mind at Work." This will be followed by several breakout sessions, including Competency Skills of New Graduate

Nurses and Red Carpet Clinical Rotations and the Alumni Nurse Program, among others.

Jeanette Klemczak, Chief Nurse Executive, will provide an update during the luncheon and the first "Friend of Nursing" Award will be presented. More breakout sessions will be presented in the afternoon, and the First Gentleman, Daniel Mulhern has been invited to present on "Providing Leadership during Difficult Times" in the late afternoon.

The second day of the summit will be focused on Geriatric Care, with topics addressing the Revised CAN Curriculum, Dementia Care, Geriatric Trends and Teaching Difficult Subjects.

We are still interested in identifying another RN-AIM member to participate in the Summit planning, so if you would like to become involved, please contact Mary Scoblic at scoblicm@comcast.net.

* Note: Nursing Super Summit location has changed. We will keep you updated on any additional changes made to the current Summit plans.

And Now . . . Musings from Sue Meeker, RN-AIM Board Member

As a member of RN-AIM, Sue is the Chair of the Administration and Education Council, as well as the representative to the Task Force on Nursing Education (TFNE). She would like to share the following information about her role:

Administration and Education Council

The Vision and Goals for the Administration and Education Council include:

Vision: *Strive to bridge the gap between Nursing Education and Nursing Practice*

Goals

- Identify the issues that impact nursing administrations and education
- Explore the roadblocks to academic credentials of nurse educators
- Align nursing education with nursing practice expectations

Addressing these goals at the October 2008 annual meeting of the Administration and Education Council, it was requested that this Council define Internships/Residency and Externships as they relate to newly licensed graduates and nursing students. These recommendations have been submitted to the TFNE and will be part of the discussions of definitions to be developed or updated. Once the TFNE has completed its work, information will be submitted to the RN-AIM Board of Directors and membership.

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Task Force on Nursing Education

The charge of this Task Force is to make recommendations to the Director of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) regarding our perceptions of changes needed to statutes, rules and policies in order to improve nursing education. The Task Force has been meeting twice monthly since early September 2008 and our work should be concluded by late April 2009. The individuals chairing this effort, along with MDCH Chief Nurse Executive, Jeanette Klemczak, have provided Task Force members with a great deal of information to help us identify best practices related to nursing and nursing education.

The Task Force will be recommending, among others issues, that many terms related to nursing and nursing education not currently defined need definition, and the definitions that do exist need to be brought up to date.

While the work of the Task Force is nearly completed, we would still accept suggestions and comments from nurses concerned about current nursing rules and/or need for additions to the rules and policies related to nursing education and practice.

Change in Membership Renewal Date

During a recent Board meeting, discussion and a vote to change the annual membership renewal date was held. There will now be one renewal date for all members, and the membership will run from October 1 of each year to September 30 of the following year. For those of you who have current renewal dates in the early part of the year, we will strive to identify the fairest way possible to prorate individual dues.

Contacting RN-AIM . . . we're changing . . .

The address and telephone number for the organization have changed—see footer below. The phone number will be operational soon; all members will be notified when this occurs.