



June 11, 2018

AORN members,

Welcome AORN members. This is the last meeting before our summer break. It is also my last meeting as your President. I was

honored and humbled to serve as your president this year. In August 2017, as I was about to start my term, I prepared the following list of items that I felt needed to be addressed this year:

1. Providing current educational topics at our monthly meetings. Even on the celebratory months of December and April, educational topics were presented. Thanks to Kumi Sarles for coordinating a variety of great speakers and topics for the meetings. We were the gracious benefactors.
2. Establishing a website for our chapter. [aornsanantonio.org](http://aornsanantonio.org) has now been created.
3. Continuing community service efforts. We continued serving the Under the Bridge homeless under Ellen Ott's direction and assisting Christalia Starks with the Elf Louise project. Both are members of our chapter. Even though they may not be as active today in our chapter, they carry on their civic duty with other projects. We enjoy helping our fellow members with such projects. As we discussed our budget for 2018-2019, we put monies aside for providing assistance for a family during the Christmas holidays.
4. Adopting greater fiscal and financial responsibility. We enlisted a Financial Consultant and accountant to guide us and oversee the chapter's funds.
5. Continuing the Annual Symposium. Under Adelaide Emery's direction, we were able to continue with our tradition and have the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AORN Symposium. AORN National officers were present. Missi Merlino, our 2018 National AORN President Elect gave us an update from our national office.

The nurses who received their CNOR certifications were honored at our spring mixer. I hope we can continue this celebration and make it a tradition. The increase in the number of members who receive and maintain their certification is a goal of our chapter. As of today, 33.4% of our members are CNORs.

We were fortunate to send 8 members as delegates to the National 2018 EXPO in New Orleans this year. The decision on which members received a stipend was decided by the total number of points accrued during 2016-2017. Points are accrued by attending the monthly meetings, volunteering at the various functions held throughout the year, UTB event, symposium, etc...

David Taylor, our incoming president assisted the scholarship project by creating a base guideline application to help the Scholarship committee. This committee consisted of only 2 members. Members are welcomed to join this committee. For 2 years in a row, we have not given a scholarship to a member. We now have funds to help you with your professional advancement and yet no one has applied. We hope that by updating the scholarship application and posting it on our website, members will apply.

As you have surmised by now, growth of an organization can only be done through the volunteer hours of our members. Attending our meetings and being involved as officers, board members and volunteers on the many activities we host is the only way an organization can survive and thrive. The majority of us still have full time jobs, yet all our 350 members have expertise in which to help the team. The officers and board members cannot do it alone.

Our chapter received a National Five Star Rating for 2017. This did not just happen. We worked hard to achieve this honor. We will continue to work hard, me included. My presidency may be over but my support for the organization will carry on.

Finally, I have many to thank but most of all, the following:

1. My bosses at Methodist Hospital, Betsy Grimaldi and April Tolson. They have been a huge support for me during the year;
2. Previous AORN presidents and officers who gave me advice, guidance and support, especially with understanding the by-laws; as well as
3. Jackie Kennedy from Baxter as our Industry Rep, Michelle Love from Medtronic and Christina Huff from Acelity who supported us by sponsoring our Meeting Mixers.

It took many of us to keep your organization vital. For those of you who have worked alongside me, you know how much I respect and admire the work AORN has done for us. They have protected us with their guidelines and standards. But most of all, they have provided the standards for us to be the true patient advocate. Let us all provide the support needed to keep our organization strong. Thank you.

Speaker: Jesse Cantu, BSN,RN,FACCWS, CWCMS

Anna Grassmuck, Key Account Manager NPWT Medela Healthcare

Topic: Essentials of Wound Knowledge (1.5 CEUs)

Dinner will be provided

Rachel J Barrera, RN, CNOR

President

June 10, 2018