



"BOARD CERTIFICATION: *Engage Excellence*"

THE ABOHN REPORT Fall 2016

THE ABOHN REPORT

Volume 37 Issue 2



Special points of interest:

- ABOHN @ AAOHN Reception Memories
- ABOHN Award Winners
- Call for Employer Award Nominations
- Someone You Should Know!

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Message from the ABOHN Chair *by Jennylynn Balmer*

It is Autumn again, which always reminds me of change as school starts again and the leaves change to brilliant hues of orange and red. As I begin my second term as ABOHN Chair, I reflect on the many exciting changes here at ABOHN and will share them with you. First of all, in April, we had a very successful AAOHN conference where we were able to meet over 100 new members and first time attendees, had an exhibit booth that was hopping busy and had a very successful reception where we honored the top scorers on the certification exam: Jessica Bedwell, winner of the Debra L. Fischer Gibbon award (COHN-S); Terry Boyce, winner of the Ann M Lachat Award (COHN); Lisa Worden, winner of the Ada Mayo Stewart Award (Case Management.) We also recognized Tesoro for their support of certification for the occupational health nurses in their company.

In addition, we had a very successful meeting with the

AAOHN leadership where we continue to look for ways to collaborate to further occupational health nursing. On another exciting note, ABOHN Board Members will be presenting a poster and Denise Knoblauch, ABOHN Executive Director and I will be presenting at the 2017 AAOHN conference. We look forward to seeing you there.

In June, we had our annual Board of Directors meeting which was bittersweet as we said goodbye to several OUTSTANDING board members - Beth Beaty, Cindy Fearn, Eileen Maloney-White, Barb McCarthy, Sara Peterson, and public Board Member Roger Brauer. Their contributions and service to our organization was immeasurable and they will be missed. Even so, we also inducted several new members including Lucy Carlson, Jean Drevdahl-Orchard, Bev Hagar, Denise Matthews, Michele Willis and Jim Persoon. The new Board is full of energy, hardworking, innovative and always looking for ways to improve ABOHN. I am so honored to be working with them. Truly, serving on the ABOHN Board of Directors has been one of the best experiences of my life, allowing me to make great friends and connections and improving my skills as an occupational health nurse. If you have any desire to serve on the ABOHN Board of Directors and have any questions,

do not hesitate to reach out to me or any of the other BOD.

Lastly, the ABOHN staff has been working very hard to modernize and bring technology to ABOHN. If you have not seen the NEW ABOHN website, you need to visit it ASAP! It looks fabulous and has some great functionality (with more to come.) The ABOHN LinkedIn site also offers ways to share practice information and the weekly blast emails share great information as well. In addition, ABOHN rolled out new DIGITAL BADGING! It is an electronic method to show pride in your certification, demonstrate your competency to employers and potential employers and keep track of when your renewal/recertification is due. In September, we began using this technology.

The ABOHN BOD values, you, the certificate holder. We know you worked hard to get your certification and we work hard to uphold and demonstrate the value of certification while meeting the stringent national standards and requirements. Do not hesitate to reach out to us with questions you may have.



ABOHN's examinations are accredited by the National Commission of Certifying Agencies (NCCA), the certifying body of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE). ABOHN is a proud member of the American Board of Nursing Specialties



ABOHN 2016—2017 Board of Directors

ABOHN is governed by a Board of Directors composed of certified occupational health nurses and one public member that are selected to be representative of the community of certified occupational health nurses. The responsibilities of the Board include establishing criteria for certification and setting policies to maintain a valid certification program.



Front Row L-R, Denise Knoblauch, (Executive Director), Lucy Carlson, Michele Willis, Paula Clay, Beverly Hagar, Paula Kerns, Denise Matthews. Back Row L-R, Jean Drevdahl-Orchard, Wanda Smiling, Noreen Olson, Jennylynn Blamer, Jim Persoon (Public Member), Carole Cusack (Managing Director)

Governing Council

Chair: Jennylynn Balmer, MPA, RN, COHN-S, FAAOHN
Secretary and CM Chair: Paula Kerns, BA, RN, COHN-S/CM
Treasurer: Noreen Olson, MN, RN, ARM, COHN-S
COHN-S Chair: Wanda Smiling, BSN, RN, CARN, COHN-S
COHN Chair: Paula Clay, MPH, RN, COHN/CM/SM

Directors

Lucille “Lucy” Carlson, MSN, MPH, RN, COHN-S/CM
Jean Drevdahl-Orchard, Ph.D., RN-BC CCM, CIH, CSP, CHMM, COHN-S/CM
Beverly Hagar, BSN, RN, COHN-S
Denise Matthews, BSN, RN, COHN-S
Jim Persoon, Ph.D. (Public Member)
Michele Willis, BSN, RN, COHN-S

Thank you to our retiring Board Members

Every year we have to say good-bye to some amazing people who dedicate their time and talents on the ABOHN Board of Directors. Each individual brings their own unique skill set to ABOHN and works tirelessly to ensure that your credentials continue to be true to the mission of ABOHN:

"To promote a standard of excellence in occupational health nursing through credentialing."

Eileen, Barb, Beth, Sara and Roger joined the Board in June 2012 and Cindy joined us in June 2014. ABOHN was very fortunate to have received the wealth of information, dedication to the profession and work ethic that each board member brought to the table each month.

Eileen Maloney-White

Board Service: 2012—2016

Eileen brought her extensive talents to the board and used them to help ABOHN through the last four years.

Always optimistic and imaginative, our At-Large Board Member (Canada) served on many committees and rose to the challenge of steering our COHN Advisory Committee as Chair from 2013-2015; the Public Relations Committee as Chair from 2013-2016; and contributing to the Research Committee work.

THANK YOU EILEEN!

Barbara McCarthy

Board Service: 2012—2016

Barb came to ABOHN representing the Southeast region and shared her commitment to ABOHN by serving all four years on our COHN Advisory Committee and on the ABOHN Nominations Committee. Barb was Chair of both committees from 2015-2016.

Barb's brought her diverse skills and exceptional insight to the Safety, Public Relations, Research and Strategic Planning Committees.

THANK YOU BARB!

Elizabeth Beaty

Board Service: 2012—2016

Beth hails from the Southeast region and brought her expertise along with an abundance of southern charm to her board service!

Beth was Treasurer during 2015-2016, Chaired the COHN-S Committee from 2013-2014, the Case Management and the Finance Committees during 2015-2016 and the Research Committee from 2013-2016. Beth also served on multiple committees including; the COHN, Finance, Nominations and Strategic Planning.

THANK YOU BETH!

Sara Peterson

Board Service: 2012—2016

Sara represented the North Central Region and was instrumental in the financial health of ABOHN over the past four years.

Sara worked tirelessly as the Secretary of the Governing Council during 2014-2016 keeping all the Director's informed and on target. Her enthusiasm and dedication for ABOHN came through in her work on the COHN, COHN-S, Case Management and Finance Committees.

THANK YOU SARA!

Roger Brauer

Board Service: 2012—2016

Roger, ABOHN's Public Member, brought his unique and outstanding knowledge of the credentialing industry to ABOHN's Board.

As an expert author on the topic of the credentialing industry, Roger's extraordinary gifts were used on many committees, including the Safety, Public Relations, Finance, Research and Strategic Planning.

THANK YOU ROGER!

Cynthia Fearn

Board Service: 2014—2016

Cindy was a representative of the North Central Region and brought her abundant resources and ability to the ABOHN Board of Directors.

Cindy served the board in numerous ways, including committee work on the Finance, Research, Strategic Planning, COHN and Case Management Advisory Committees, and as Chair of the COHN-S Committee during 2015 -2016.

THANK YOU CINDY!



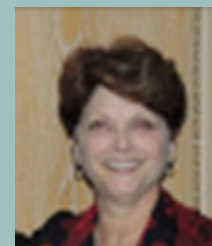
Pictured Left to Right:
Eileen Maloney-White
RN, BSc, LNC-CSp, COHN(C), COHN

Barbara McCarthy
MSED, RN, COHN

Elizabeth Beaty
MSN, RN, COHN/CM

Sara Peterson
BSN, RN, COHN-S/CM

Roger Brauer, Ph.D.
Public Member



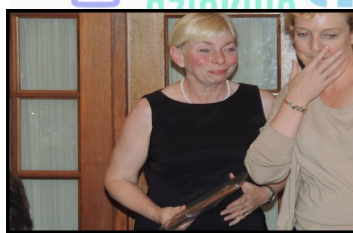
Cindy Fearn
RN, MSN, ANP, COHN-S/CM



Roger Brauer and Jennylynn Balmer



Sara Peterson and Jennylynn Balmer



Eileen Maloney-White and Jennylynn Balmer



Barb McCarthy and Jennylynn Balmer

ABOHN Welcomes Newly Elected 2016-2017 Directors

Jean Drevdahl-Orchard

Ph.D., RN-BC, CCM, CIH, CSP, CHMM, COHN-S/CM

Jean Drevdahl-Orchard is currently employed by Premise Health as the Occupational Health Nurse at Intel located in Hillsboro, OR. Jean's deep and diversified knowledge of occupational safety and health, coupled with her passion for learning is a great asset to the ABOHN team



Jim Persoon

Ph.D.

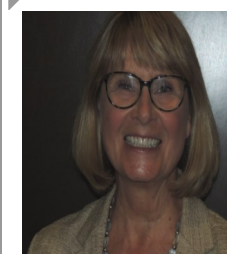
Jim Persoon is ABOHN's new Public Member and the Senior Manager Corporate Physical Security for Vista Outdoor, Inc., Anoka, MN. Jim's business experience allows him to understand the technical details while also seeing the big picture. These skills will be advantageous for the ABOHN organization.



Lucy Carlson

MPH, MSN, RN, COHN-S/CM

Lucy Carlson is the Occupational Health Specialist in the Corporate Occupational Medicine/Medical Department for 3M Corporation located in St. Paul, MN. Lucy brings a wealth of experience including analytical and organizational skills to the ABOHN Board of Directors and will be a great advocate for ABOHN certification.



Denise Matthews

BSN, RN, COHN-S

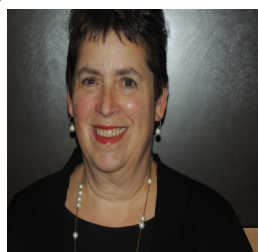
Denise Matthews is currently employed as an Occupational Health Nurse for the Delaware Army National Guard located in New Castle, DE. Denise's strengths include strategic planning and marketing experience which will benefit ABOHN's goals for future growth.



Beverly Hagar

BSN, RN, COHN-S

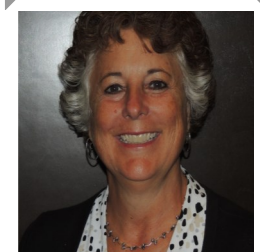
Bev Hagar is the Supervisor of Employee Health at the Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle, WA. Bev believes in pursuing ongoing education in the occupational health field and is a great supporter for ABOHN certification. Bev will be a great champion for ABOHN.



Michele Willis

BSN, RN, COHN-S

Michele Willis is the Manager of Onsite Services for CorpOHS, located in Frederick, MD. Her diversified background in occupational health nursing has taught her to be adaptable and flexible while finding solutions to many challenges in her career. Michele's attributes make her a great resource to the ABOHN team.



ABOHN At-A-Glance

**American Board for Occupational Health Nurses
Statement of Financial Position
December 2014 and 2015**

Current Assets	2015	2014
Cash	\$203,508	\$113,261
Investment Securities	\$229,921	\$385,788
Accounts Receivable	\$0	\$29,120
Prepaid Expenses	\$10,592	\$8,365
Property and Equipment	\$16,442	\$11,633
Total Current Assets	\$460,463	\$548,167

Liabilities and Net Assets	2015	2014
Accounts Payable	\$15,401	\$23,746
Current portion of deferred fees	\$38,820	\$109,430
Deferred Fees	\$0	\$38,820
Net Assets	\$406,242	\$376,171
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$460,463	\$548,167

Certificant Status by Credential - 1/31/2016

Credential	Active	Inactive	Retired
COHN	904	6	30
COHN/CM	205	2	7
COHN/SM	0	0	0
COHN/CM/SM	3	0	0
COHN-S	2265	27	283
COHN-S/CM	560	10	61
COHN-S/SM	3	0	0
COHN-S/CM/SM	6	0	0
CM	1	1	1
Total Jan. 2016	3947	46	382
Total Jan 2015	4396	52	330



ABOHN at AAOHN 2016

The AAOHN National Conference was held in Jacksonville, Florida during the week of April 11-14, 2016. It was a wonderful conference, with terrific speakers and classes. Best of all was the camaraderie and connections of all the attendees!

Denise Knoblauch, ABOHN's Executive Director, encouraged the first time attendees to put Board Certification in their future sights and walked them through the different exams and the nursing roles associated with each.

Our exhibit booth was bustling! We enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones!

Our ABOHN reception was another success. The room was overflowing with OHN's, both certified and non-certified, to enjoy each other's accomplishments, especially those that received the ABOHN awards for the highest score on the previous years' examinations.

Once again, ABOHN gave out chances to win a few prizes, including gift certificates for the exam fee and yearly renewal fee (a \$400 and \$200 value). We had lots of tickets dropped into those buckets!



The "What Color is Your Brain" giveaway winner

Judy Fields



The "Exam Fee" giveaway winner

Angie Moon



The "Framed Stamps" giveaway winner

Yvette Early



The "Renewal/Recertification Fee" giveaway winner

Phyllis Gaskins

ABOHN Reception Memories



This prestigious award is presented annually to the occupational health nurse who receives the highest score on the previous year's Certified Occupational Health Nurse-Specialist (COHN-S) certification examination.

This award has been established to honor Debra Lynn Fisher Gibbon, a former Certified Occupational Health Nurse-Specialist (COHN-S) and Certified Safety Professional (CSP), who lost her life on the 105th floor of the World Trade Center on the morning of September 11, 2001. A senior vice president for AON Risk Services, Ms. Gibbon coordinated services for the company's top clients. Ms. Gibbon worked for 17 years in the area of occupational health and safety.

Award Winner—Debra L. Fischer Gibbon Excellence in OHN

**Jessica Bedwell Thompson,
BSN, RN, COHN-S, CEAS, CPCT**



Denise Knoblauch, Jessica Thompson and Wanda Smiling,

Jessica doesn't just take care of employees when they are hurt or sick, she strives to keep them healthy 24/7. She is an Occupational Health Nurse at Denver Water where she has worked for the past four years. Jessica is part of a 5 person team at Denver Water's Employee Health Clinic where she performs wellness checks, drug and alcohol testing, assesses worker's compensation injuries, provides ergonomic evaluations, and coordinates return-to-work programs. She is an active member of Denver Water's Wellness Committee, which promotes healthy living programs among the organization's 1,100 employees. She enjoys getting to know her patients and stresses preventative care.

Jessica grew up in Anchorage, AK and moved to Colorado to attend the University of Colorado at Boulder. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting and graduated first in her class, receiving the Academic Excellence Award from CU's Leeds School of Business. While attending college she began working as a CNA at a local hospital and switched career paths to become a nurse. She earned her bachelors degree in nursing from Metropolitan State College of Denver and graduated Summa Cum Laude. Prior to Denver Water, she was a registered nurse at the Medical Center of Aurora where she focused on oncology, medical and surgical fields.

Jessica takes her passion of helping others beyond Denver Water and recently began volunteering at the Maxfund animal shelter. Her husband, Andrew, works in graphic design and they have 2 rescue dogs, Charlie and Murphy.

Certified Occupational Health Nurses- Specialist (COHN-S)

Award Winner—Ann M. Lachat Excellence in OHN

Terry Lynn Boyce, RN, COHN



Denise Knoblauch, Terry Lynn Boyce, and Paula Clay

Terry began her career in health care with an Associate Degree in Applied Sciences as a Medical Assistant in 1994 from Delta College, University Center, Michigan and took a job with Blue Care Network, an HMO in Saginaw, MI as a Medical Assistant. Terry decided that nursing was in her future, and returned to school at Delta College, achieving her RN through the Associate Degree in Applied Sciences program in 1999. After obtaining her RN, Terry was employed at Covenant HealthCare in Saginaw, MI in the Cardiac Progressive Care unit. During this time, she also worked in endoscopy and hemodialysis specialties.

Terry's path changed to occupational health nursing in 2000 when she was contracted for a job in the automobile industry and became the Lead Nurse at Delphi Chassis. She was also contracted as an OHN at other GM and Delphi plants. Currently, Terry works with Dow Corning Corporation in the polysilicon industry as a Satellite Occupational Health Nurse at Hemlock Semiconductor located in Hemlock, MI.

Terry feels very fortunate to work with Dow Corning because of the company commitment to care for all their employees, and that Dow Corning is a place where her passion for occupational health nursing is valued.

Among her many accomplishments, Terry is proud to be a mother of three sons and a grandmother of two lovely granddaughters. Terry keeps healthy by attending core exercise classes and Pure Barre and enjoys performing in a hand-bell choir and Praise band.

The ABOHN Ann M. Lachat Excellence in Occupational Health Nursing Award was originally established in 1997 to honor ABOHN's first chair, Marguerite Ahern Graff.

The ABOHN Board of Directors changed the name of this award in 2015, to honor Ann M. Lachat, the former CEO of ABOHN, for her 23 years of service. This special award is given to the individual who achieved the highest score on the previous year's COHN examination.

Certified Occupational Health Nurses (COHN)

Award Winner—Ada Mayo Stewart Excellence in OHN Case Management

Lisa Worden, RN, COHN-S/CM

This prestigious award is presented annually by the American Board for Occupational Health Nurses (ABOHN) to the individual who achieved the highest score on the previous year's Case Management (CM) certification examination.

This award was established in January 2000 to honor Ada Mayo Stewart. In 1895, Ms. Stewart was one of the first industrial health nurses in the United States. Her practice at the Vermont Marble Company involved many facets of occupational health case management. She worked in the clinic, provided health education for employees and their families and made home visits. She was the first case manager in occupational health nursing as we know it today.



Denise Knoblauch, Lisa Worden and Cindy Fearn

In 1987, Lisa graduated from the University of Lowell, Massachusetts with a BSN and began work in a hospital setting. After a few years, an opportunity as an occupational health nurse at AT&T presented itself and Lisa had to make a decision: to stay where she had started her nursing career, or to try an unfamiliar path in nursing...Lisa decided to try occupational health nursing. In retrospect, Lisa believes that it was the best decision she ever made! She worked for a number of years as a staff nurse and pursued her ABOHN certification in 1995.

After achieving her COHN-S, Lisa was promoted to the role of Nurse Manager at Lucent Technologies (formerly AT&T). She humbly contributes a lot of her early OH education to great mentorship by a team of extremely knowledgeable OHNs and Physicians. Besides OH disciplines, Lisa also learned a great deal about integrated disability case management.

After 16 years at Lucent Technologies, Lisa began a new career with Exeter Health Resources and Affiliates where she created a Disability and Leave Case Management program for the company. Lisa has worked over 26 years as an OHN, performing work related and non-work related cases, administration of FMLA, ADA, WC and STD benefits. She also completes pre-placement health-screens, international travel consults and job-site assessments. Lisa's "to-do" list also includes coordination and implementation of surveillance and wellness programs and OSHA recordkeeping in addition to policy development and supervisory training.

Lisa lives in Seabrook, New Hampshire with her husband, three teenagers and their Chihuahua! In her spare time, you'll find her enjoying the great outdoors. She loves walking, hiking and camping with her family and friends.

Case Management (CM)

Award Winners—Employer Award

Tesoro Company



Miles Hanson, Denise Knoblauch and Valerie McGee

Tesoro is a Fortune 100 company and is an independent refiner and marketer of petroleum products. Headquartered in San Antonio, Texas and with more than 5,500 employees, Tesoro and its subsidiaries operate six refineries in the western United States with a combined capacity of 875,000 barrels per day and has ownership in a logistics business which includes;

- 20 refined products terminals and storage facilities in the western United States.
- Four marine terminals in California.
- A rail-car unloading facility in Washington, and
- Sells refined petroleum products in 17 states, including commercial and military jet fuel and heavy fuel products.

Tesoro recognizes the tremendous value of their employees which is reflected in many ways, including: **Rewarding employees** in ways that encourage and recognize their individual accomplishments and contributions to business results, and **Providing employees** with development and training opportunities.

As proof of their commitment, Tesoro provides all of their occupational health nursing employees with procurement Visa cards to cover business related expenses which include; continuing education, professional liability insurance, professional nursing memberships, and certifications. Along with these perks, Tesoro generally provides 1-2 weeks per year of paid leave to attend classes and conferences required for maintaining professional licensure and certification.

The Tesoro Corporation very generously supports all financial aspects of ABOHN's COHN/COHN-S exam preparation, certification application and certification maintenance. Once certification is achieved, the nurse is recognized company-wide for his/her achievement as well as receives an immediate salary increase.

Tesoro Companies, Inc. was nominated for this award by Valerie McGee, RN, BSN, COHN-S and Ivon Blaine Sharp, MN, APRN, FNP-C, COHN-S for the unwavering support of occupational health nursing certification. Accepting the award at the ABOHN reception was Miles Hanson, Tesoro Safety Manager and Valerie McGee, RN, BSN COHN-S.

The ABOHN Employer Recognition Award is awarded each year to a company that demonstrates support and encouragement for the personal and professional development of the certified Occupational Health Nurses that they employ. This award recipient demonstrated that it recognizes the value that certification brings to its organization and acknowledges the OHN's contributions in a variety of ways.

Employer Award

Introducing the New ABOHN Website!

ABOHN has been working on a new website over the last several months and we are up and running! Just like our old website, some areas and forms are only accessible to our ACTIVE credential holders. The main difference in this website versus our old website is that the LOGIN is powered by your **PREFERRED EMAIL**.

If you are unsure of the email associated with your credential, please contact the ABOHN office before logging on for the first time.



Introducing Digital Badging!

ABOHN and the Board of Directors have decided to utilize a technology called Digital Badging. In September 2016, ABOHN began using this technology to replace the paper wallet card.

Badges offer a portable, secure way to share your certification via social networking sites, (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter), email signatures, websites, online resumes, and more. You will be able to share with your employer, colleagues and licensing boards. New certificants will continue to receive the wall certificate in addition to the digital badge.

For additional information, please see the links below or you can find information on the ABOHN website.

[Digital Badging Video](#)



Call for Board of Directors Nominations

ABOHN will need two (2) Board Certified occupational health nurses to serve on the BOD beginning in June 2017. We currently have an urgent need for those holding the COHN credential and those holding the CM credential. If you are interested in serving on the ABOHN Board, feel free to contact our office at 630-789-5799 or find more information and the application in the link below.

[ABOHN 2017 BOD Information and Application](#)

Call for Item Question Writers

Have you ever wondered who writes the questions that are on ABOHN's examinations? The BOD relies on our certified occupational health nurses to help write and edit items to keep our question banks full and up-to-date with relative industry information.

Please consider using your talents to help keep ABOHN's examinations strong and relative to today's industry needs. You will also be helping to protect the public by ensuring that new examination candidates are proficient in the field of occupational health nursing.

If you are interested in serving as a question writer, please send us an email at info@abohn.org.

Call for Employer Award Nominations

ABOHN is currently accepting nomination applications for our annual Employer Award. You can find more information on this award on the [ABOHN website](#). For more information, please contact our office at 630-789-5799 or download the application from the link below.

[ABOHN Employer Award Application](#)

Someone You Should Know



Steven Marks, DNP, RN, APN,
COHN-S, FAAOHN

Someone You Should Know!

Meet Steven Marks, DNP, RN, APN, COHN-S, FAAOHN. Like many nurses, Steven's career trajectory started in the ER and after considerable time, he was looking for a change. A position opened up on the construction site of The Borgata, in Atlantic City, NJ and Steven believed that he was well qualified to deliver care and ensure a safe working environment for the workers on site.

Management told him, on his first day, that their goal was to have no fatalities on the job. Steven remarked that he was "shocked to find that no casino had been constructed in Atlantic City without a fatality." Working with a team of professionals, Steven fulfilled this goal during his time at The Borgata, and it is one of his many accomplishments of which he is most proud.

Mr. Marks' career travelled through many industries: private practice, insurance, correc-

tions, construction, EMS and the US Air Force as a flight nurse.

Steven is now the Administrator-Health and Safety Services for Viking Yachts and has been with this company for a little over 13 years.

As Steven states, "Viking is an amazing place that is filled with a multitude of talented people who are focused on one thing, - Building a better boat everyday. It is a hectic, driven, family owned business that has grown significantly but still feels like home."

The owners, the Healy family, believe that healthy employees are their best asset and has employed a company nurse for over 30 years. Their staff is currently around 1200 employees and the Health Department offers health, urgent care and primary care to both the worker as well as their family members. Some of the health benefits that are offered include a full immunization program, gym, personal training, yoga, nutritionist, counseling services and Viking has partnered with a local hospital to bring internal medicine physicians onsite to decrease the barriers to comprehensive health care.

Trust is his most rewarding aspect of this career. Steven functions as the "hub of the wheel" for patients and their health care issues. "On a good day, I get to share in their triumphs, but sometimes I am the one who must explain the gravity of a diagnosis or a test result", Steven says. "These conversations are made all the more difficult because of the closeness of our working relationship. They are not just my 10:45 appointment for a lab review...they are people who I have known for many years who look to me for guidance. That is a very special relationship, and the one I am most fond of."

Steven has had many opportunities at Viking, but he is most proud of continuing the strong history of onsite nursing practice. His department has grown significantly over the last 30 years, because of the foundation that every nurse that has worked at Viking has helped build. Another area that makes Steven proud, is their outreach to nursing students from local universities who come to Viking to learn occupational



Continued on page 16

ABOHN June BOD Meeting—Oak Brook, IL

At the semi-annual board meeting, Sheila Glazov facilitated a “What is Your “Professional” Brain Program for all board members and ABOHN staff. Sheila initially surveyed staff and some current board members for pre meeting preparation. She analyzed the responses for themes to help guide everyone on some team building activities.

This offered a fresh perspective and approach to understanding ourselves and others. It provided opportunities to enjoy our personality similarities and differences which impact our thoughts and actions at home and work. Differences in character traits and talents shade our perceptions and affect the way we work, live, and interact with others.

In the program, board members and staff:

- a) identified our “professional ABOHN” Brain Color personality,
- b) identified our unique “Professional” Brain Color perspective,
- c) learned how others see our own Brain Color,
- d) identified strengths and idiosyncrasies of each Brain Color,
- e) developed understanding of how to communicate and collaborate more effectively,
- f) learned conflict resolution, and
- g) learned how to decrease stress and create harmony at work and home.

After we identified our ABOHN brain color, we worked in teams to brainstorm on 4 issues:

- 1) ways make efficient office changes,
- 2) improve communication with certificate holders,
- 3) improve renewal and recertification rates, and
- 4) methods to gain new applicants and maintain newly certified nurses.

The pictures on the page reflect the team work. The teams had props to put them in the colorful spirit. It was interesting to note that we had 6 blue brainers, 6 yellow brainers, and 6 green brainers and no orange as the primary brain color.. This reflects a caring, organized, analytical board, but we need to work on our spontaneity and fun side!

We had a fun collaborative morning session which prepared us to get to the business of certification! If you want to learn more about WCIB, please go to <http://www.sheilaglazov.com/>

What Color is Your Brain?



Yellow Brains!



Blue Brains!



Green Brains!



Orange Brains!

Someone You Should Know—Continued

Continued from page 14

health and advanced nursing practice. As Steven puts it, “These students are the future and I am proud to be able to give them a unique perspective on what can happen when nurses and their business partners work together to achieve common goals.”

During these years, Steven also worked on his education. As he puts it, “I did it the hard way!” Earning a diploma in 1983 from Germantown Hospital and Medical Center; a BSN in 2003 from Immaculata; a MSN in 2007 from Richard Stockton College of New Jersey (Adult NP); and a DNP from Chatham University in 2015. Along with his extensive education, Steven earned his COHN-S in 2004 and a post master’s certificate Family NP from Stockton in 2008.

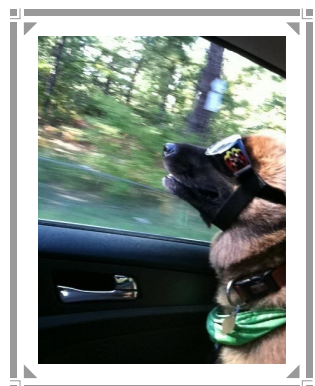
Steven believes that Certification is a mark of professionalism and shows others that you have the drive and determination to excel in your chosen career path, and that the act of maintaining your certification keeps you current on important topics that impact your career. When asked if there is anything he would like to share with other OHN’s, Steven says, “Think outside the box and do not be afraid to pitch ideas. Learn the language of the boardroom and basic business practice. It is not enough to have a good idea that helps people, if that idea is not cost effective or in line with corporate goals.”

It’s not just work that keeps Steven busy. He lectures locally for NJOHN and nationally for AAOHN. He is president elect of NJOHN and will become president in 2017. He like to BBQ and smoke foods, camp with friends, cook and tend to his vegetable garden. Steven is married to Linda Marks for 32 years and has two children, Sarah and Ben, 1 unique cat named Bear, who thinks he is a dog; and a therapy dog/partner named Bridgette.

We think Steven Marks is Someone You Should Know!



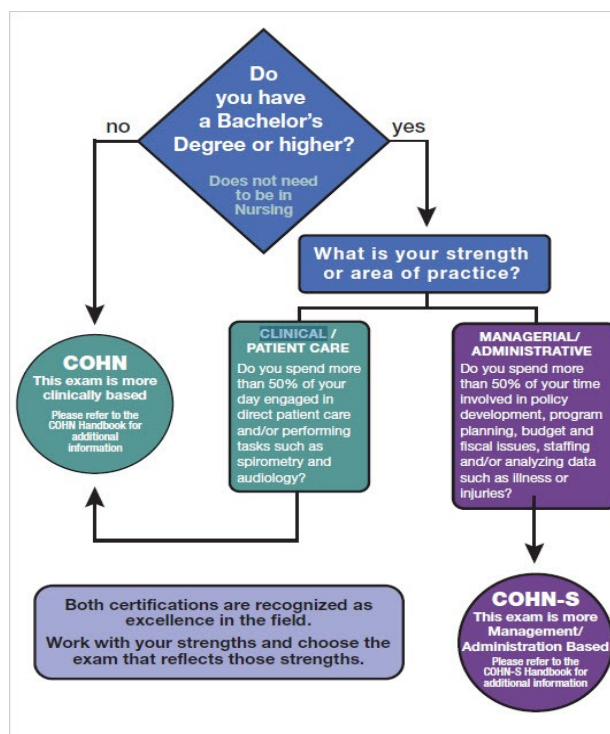
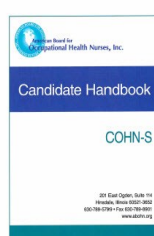
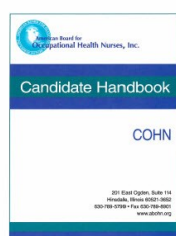
Steven with his therapy partner Bridgette!



How to choose between the COHN and COHN-S

Do you know an occupational health nurse who is considering sitting for one of our examinations?

Share this diagram to help them choose the right credential!



Renewal and Recertification Cycle

Once certified, credential holders must continue upkeep of their credential(s). ABOHN currently has a yearly Renewal cycle with Recertification paperwork due every five years. Recertification includes the fee, documentation of continuing education hours and time in industry.

Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five
RENEWAL Fee due by expiration date.	RENEWAL Fee due by expiration date.	RENEWAL Fee due by expiration date.	RENEWAL Fee due by expiration date.	RECERTIFICATION Fee and paperwork due by expiration date.

- This cycle continues for the duration that you hold your certification.
- ABOHN changed to this model in January 2013.
- Those credential holders who received their certification prior to 2013 will be changed to this Renewal and Recertification schedule as they reach their next Recertification deadline.

For additional information or questions, please download the Recertification Application and Handbook found on our website at www.abohn.org or call our office at 1-630-789-5799 or 1-800-842-2646.

ABOHN Information!



www.abohn.org

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ABOHN Vision Statement

ABOHN Certification is recognized and valued as the standard to maximize the health and safety of workers worldwide.

ABOHN Mission Statement

ABOHN's mission is to promote a standard of excellence in occupational health nursing through credentialing

Principles and Values

To accomplish its mission and vision, ABOHN commits its resources to achieving the following principles and values:

- *Establish and promote credentialing standards for professional occupational health nurses.*
- *Publicly recognize individuals who demonstrate that they meet these standards.*
- *Elevate the quality of occupational health nursing practice.*
- *Stimulate the development of improved educational standards and programs in the field of occupational health nursing.*
- *Encourage occupational health nurses to continue their professional education.*
- *Perform the above unrestricted by consideration of national origin, race, creed, disability, color, age and gender.*
- *Create value for employers, their employees and the occupational health professional.*
- *Seek inclusively by partnering with organizations that share ABOHN's mission and values.*