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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

April 2009

Reflections from the President**"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it." *Halford E. Luccock***

At the beginning of my tenure as president of SWOSNA, the quote above was used in a Reflections of the President.

In the past few weeks, I have witnessed the most amazing display of our members creating a finely tuned "orchestra".

In the hope of improving the health of Ohio's students, our Governor, through HB1, has mandated that every school should have a licensed healthcare provider.

This is a most worthy goal, one that all school nurses support.

Unfortunately, those who crafted HB1 did not grasp the great disparity between the scopes of practice of RNs and LPNs; they also demonstrated a lack of knowledge of the vast specialized responsibilities of school nurses.

Since the committee released the details of HB1, I have witnessed an incredible symphony of all of our voices - through phone calls, emails, letters, and networking; through sharing ideas, supporting, encouraging, challenging, and stepping out of our comfort zones - we have become the voice for Ohio's children and school nursing.

Thanks to you and school nurses around the state of Ohio, those on the HB1 sub-committee can no longer say they do not know the difference between RNs and LPNs. They also have a clearer understanding of the responsibilities of the school nurse and the contribution we make to the health of Ohio's children.

However, this opportunity to educate cannot end here; it must be just the beginning. Now is the time for us to educate the rest of Ohio about nursing in general and school nursing in particular.

When the public does not know the difference between an LPN and an RN, we have failed them.

When the public thinks an LPN can do the job of the school nurse, we have failed the children.

It has been said many times that nurses just don't like "tooting our own horn".

However, we have been quiet for too long.

If we are not careful, if we do not take action, there will be no horn to toot.

No single member can achieve these dreams for all of us, anymore than one person can whistle a symphony.

It takes all of us working together to achieve a dream.

It has been an honor being your president.

Sincerely,

**SWOSNA GENERAL
MEETING - MAY
MEMBERSHIP
Martha Carrick
Scholarship
NCSN Scholarship
Seeking Volunteers for
Committee Chair Positions
OASN Conference 2009-
2010
SWOSNA By Laws
Free Safekids Seminar at
Dayton Children's**

Judy Marrinan

SWOSNA GENERAL MEETING - MAY

Please join us for the last meeting of the 2008-2009 school year. *Minors and the Law* will be presented by Shakyra Diaz, ACLU Ohio on Thursday, May 7th, at the Dayton Mall Holiday Inn. Please click "[Meeting Flyer](#)" for more details, registration form and directions.

MEMBERSHIP

It is not too early to be thinking of signing up for SWOSNA 2009-2010. Once again, we will be offering you the chance to take advantage of our *Early Bird* special. For more information and application, click "[Early Bird Membership Form](#)".

Martha Carrick Scholarship

I am pleased to announce that Juliet Kolde is the recipient of the 2009 Martha Carrick Scholarship.

Please join us Thursday, May 7th at our Annual Meeting as we recognize Juliet on her efforts to further her nursing education for the betterment of Ohio's children.

For an application for the Martha Carrick Scholarship 2010, click "[MC Application](#)" to begin your application process.

NCSN Scholarship

Taking the NCSN test before September 1, 2009?

Consider applying for the NCSN Scholarship.

Upon confirmation that you passed your NCSN certification exam, submit your application and required documentation to the Public Relations Chair, Andrea Smalls, for consideration for this award.

Up to four members in good standing are eligible.

Click on "[NCSN Application](#)" for the NCSN Scholarship information and application.

Seeking Volunteers for Committee Chair Positions

We are seeking volunteers to chair the *Ways and Means* and *Historian* positions.

Please click "[Position Descriptions](#)" to see each job description.

Contact Judy Marrinan at judy@marrinan.us or Crystal Thornton at thornton4@aol.com if you are interested or have questions.

OASN Conference 2009-2010



As OASN
Vice
President,
SWOSNA



member
Kathy
O'Dell is in
charge of
planning

the 2009-2010 OASN conference.

This is a big job and needs all of SWOSNA to help to make it the success we all want it to be.

In addition to Kathy O'Dell being Vice President, SWOSNA's own Eva Garchar will be sworn in as OASN President at the conference.

Let's celebrate and show the rest of Ohio a great time.

Please join us as we host the 2009-2010 OASN conference.

Volunteer for one of the many positions that will be available.

Contact Kathy O'Dell at godell2@woh.rr.co.m for more information.

SWOSNA By Laws

Forget what is in our SWOSNA By-Laws? You are not alone.

Click "[By-Laws](#)" for an opportunity to review the current SWOSNA By-Laws.

Free Safekids Seminar at Dayton Children's

Dayton Children's Medical Center is offering a free seminar on "**Raising Safe Kids, One Stage at a Time**" on Monday, April 27, 2009 from 6 pm to 8 pm as a kick off to *Safe Kids Week*.

Learn about how a child's growth and development contributes to their injury risk and what interventions can be used to promote their safety through the different stages.

Click "[here](#)" for registration form and information.

Respond by April 20 as space is limited.

For further information about the program you can contact Jessica Saunders at (937)641-3385 or by email at saunde_rsj@childrensdayton.org

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