



Message from the ABOHN Chair *by Jennylynn Balmer*



Inside this issue:

- Meet ABOHN's New Executive Director
- Certification Process
- Re-Certification Maintenance Process
- 2014 Award winners
- Employer of the Year Award Application
- ABOHN-at-a-Glance

Fall always reminds me of the start of new things with the start of school and the start of football (for you fans out there), the crisp air, and the change of colors in the leaves. And it is no different here at ABOHN as we celebrate new beginnings and change. First of all, I am very pleased and honored to begin my term to serve in the role as your Chair for the American Board for Occupational Health Nurses. It is a role I take seriously as we look for new ways to demonstrate the value that Board Certification brings to Occupational Health Nursing and employee safety. The work we do is vital in keeping the workforce healthy and safe.

We have also had change in our Chief Executive Officer role. It was with sadness we said goodbye to Ann Lachat this summer after more than 20 years of dedicated service to ABOHN, but we are pleased to announce that after a long and difficult search we have appointed an excellent candidate to fill this role, Ms. Denise Knoblauch, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM. Denise earned her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree from Bradley University. She has 25 years of occupational health nursing experience in hospital based occupational health, manufacturing and worker's compensa-

tion case management. She is a certified Six Sigma lead green belt and has served on the Executive Board of the Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP). Denise most recently served on the ABOHN Board of Directors, bringing her unique skills and talents to the Public Relations committee, Certified Occupational Health Nurse - Specialist (COHN-S) committee, and as Chair of the Case Management Advisory committee.

In addition, we said goodbye to three Directors and welcomed two more. I wish to give special thanks to Chris Zichello, who served as previous Chair, Peggy Manuszak who also has served as ABOHN BOD Chair, and Mark Sebastian for their service on the Board. We also welcome three new Board members: Wanda Smiling, RN, BSN, CARN, COHN-S; Noreen Olson RN, MN, ARM, COHN-S; and Pamela Thomsen RN, MSHCI, BSN, CHTS-PW, COHN/CM. In addition, Paula Kerns RN, COHN-S/CM has agreed to come back and serve another term on the Board. I also want to encourage each of you to consider serving on the Board. Serving on the Board had been one of the most professionally rewarding things I have done and it is fun too. We look for a diverse mix of board-certified dedicated individuals who are

willing to serve a two year term. The application is on our website.

There are many other exciting things going on at ABOHN. We are currently updating the website to make it more user friendly to you the customer. Be on the look out for those changes. Many thanks to our staff who have been working very hard to make sure we have the best website possible. We are working to make strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations such as AAOHN, AOHP, NIOSH and others. By partnering together we can strengthen our own organization and help ensure a more healthful and safe work place for the employees that we serve. We are always working with Applied Measurement Professionals to write new exam questions and ensure our exam tests are valid and reliable in demonstrating the proficiency of our credential holders.

We are a profession that serves our employees and brings value to our employers. Board certification demonstrates this value. The ABOHN Staff, BOD, and I are working hard to make sure that value is recognized. I look forward to serving as Chair this coming year and Happy Fall. *Jennylynn*

An Interview with ABOHN's New Executive Director

Tell us about yourself.

I am married to Eric for 9 years. We have 2 kids at home, Norman and Nora who are Australian Shepherds. I have a daughter Trisha who is married to Leon and they have 4 children, ages 16 (LJ), 6 (Claire), 4 (Bennett) and almost 2 (Harlan). I have 2 stepsons: Josh is married to Kelly and they have 3 dogs. Jon is married to Ann and he has 2 stepchildren and 6 year old son, Jackson. Eric is a farmer and works as the welding supervisor at an agricultural manufacturing facility which is where we met when I was the occupational health nurse at the plant.

What outside activities/interest/hobbies do you have?

I enjoy baking, cooking and preserving my own garden produce. I love to read. I enjoy antiquing and shopping at estate sales. I love to begin my morning with a long walk (I would enjoy it more if it was near a body of water and beach!)

Education

My initial nursing degree was an associate's degree in nursing. I then graduated from Bradley University in Peoria, IL with a bachelor's in nursing. I have some graduate course work in occupational health nursing and am currently investigating MSN programs to complete my degree.

What were your prior nursing positions?

I tell the story that I became an employee health nurse at a small rural hospital when the nun died (which is true). I was the employee health nurse without a preceptor as bloodborne pathogens standard became mandated. FMLA, ADA and respiratory protection came along shortly thereafter. I also did infection control at that facility. An opportunity arose to work at an urban teaching medical center as an occupational health nurse in the clinic. While there, I developed the case manager roles and served in management. I was contracted to develop a medical department for a manufacturing facility while there as well.

After 17 years, I left to take a different case manager role as a telephonic case manager for an insurance company working from home for a year and a half. Then I threw my hat in the ring for the Executive Director position at ABOHN to follow in the footsteps of the great Ann Lachat.

Why did you choose occupational health?

In a way, occupational health initially chose me. After the sudden death of the nun at the small hospital, they were left without an employee health nurse. I was managing a private duty home care department that was closing so the HR manager asked me to apply. It worked out well for me as I was recently divorced and a single parent. I immediately loved the role. I enjoyed caring for the health and safety of the workforce. My father was an inpatient at that hospital and he was amazed that everyone knew me. As one staff member said, "Well she is our nurse."

When did you originally become ABOHN certified and why?

I became certified in 1994. When I am asked to talk about my professional accomplishments, the first one I always say is that I am so proud to have obtained my occupational health certification in the first year of my eligibility. It was something I just felt self-motivated to do. I was working on Joint Commission accreditation for the Infection Control program and certification and competency was discussed. I did not obtain my CIC but that motivated me to investigate occupational health nursing certification.

What happened to make you pursue specialized or other credentials?

I was grandfathered as an COHN-S. After developing the case manager role in the occupational health clinic, I felt I should continue to show my competency in case management and I took that exam in 2000.

What are some of the benefits of certification?

When I applied for the position at the teaching medical center, the medical director was impressed with my certification. Even when I was not looking for a new position, I would get calls or emails from recruiters throughout the nation seeking a certified occupational health nurse. I feel a sense of personal pride and accomplishment with my credentials. I like knowing I am a subject matter expert in our specialty.

Are you active in your local chapter of AAOHN or AOHP (or other associations)?

I have been very active with AOHP. I was a co-founding member of the AOHP Illinois Chapter and served as President and Vice President. I was fortunate to be able to be active on the Executive Board and served from 1994-2007 as Secretary, Vice President, President and President Emeritus. I have been the co-chair for Getting Started

on the Road presentations and have served as CE committee co-chair. I have been a member of Illinois and Heart of Illinois AAOHN chapters. I have served my chapter on the board of directors, nominations and education committees.

Describe the ABOHN workplace environment and culture.

ABOHN is a small office with 3 other paid staff. The staff works closely together to get the business of credentialing done for our specialty. We currently have 4,316 active credential holders.

I am currently working on the budget for 2016. I am working with the Board of Directors and our test development vendor, Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP) as we review the current exams. I am currently researching what other nursing certification organizations require for recertification (work hours, continuing education, etc.) I am planning to develop a survey with collaborating partners such as AAOHN and AOHP to try to reach non-certified members and find out what barriers exist to prevent obtaining certification. We need to have more applicants for our credential. We have more certificate holders retiring than new ones applying for certification. We need to find ways to increase our revenue base.

I am hoping to develop a webinar on the exam item writing that our credentialed holders could view at their leisure so we obtain more questions for our exams.

I am much honored to have been selected as the Executive Director. I do not anticipate having the number of years that Ann had when she retired, but I hope to be here for several more years.



Denise Knoblauch, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM
ABOHN 's Executive Director

ABOHN 2015-2016 Board of Directors



Chair:

Jennylynn Balmer

Secretary:

Sara Peterson

Treasurer:

Elizabeth Beaty

COHN-S Chair:

Cynthia Fearn

COHN Chair:

Barbara McCarthy

CM Chair:

Elizabeth Beaty



Front Row: Left to Right

Denise Knoblauch, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM
(Executive Director)

Ann Lachat, RN, BSN, FAAOHN, COHN-S/CM.
CEO (Retired)

Barbara McCarthy, RN, MSED, BSN, COHN

Pamela Thomsen, RN, MSHCI, BSN, CHTS-PW, COHN/CM

Not Pictured:

Cynthia Fearn, RN, MSN, COHN-S/CM

Roger Brauer, PH.D., PE (Public Member)

Back Row: Left to Right

Carole Cusack, MBA (Managing Director)

Sara Peterson, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM

Eileen Maloney-White, BScRN, LNC-CSp, COHN (C), COHN

Wanda Smiling, RN, BSN, CARN, COHN-S

Jennylynn Balmer, RN, BSN, MPA, COHN-S/SM
(Chair)

Noreen Olson, RN, MN, ARM, COHN-S

Elizabeth Beaty, RN, MSN, COHN/CM

Call for Board of Directors Nominations

Sadly, every year we must say farewell to members of our board. It is hard to say goodbye to any of these selfless volunteers who take pride in the occupational health nursing industry and by their commitment to our Board, are recognized as leaders in the OHN field. Each member brings their own unique perspective to our Board and becomes a subject matter expert (SME) for the region and industry in which they practice.

For 2016 - 2017, we will require five Directors for the ABOHN Board,
representing all industries and regions, including Canada.

If you are interested in serving on ABOHN's Board of Directors, please call the ABOHN office at 1-888-842-2646 or you can find the information on our website under About Us > Board of Directors.

THANK YOU!

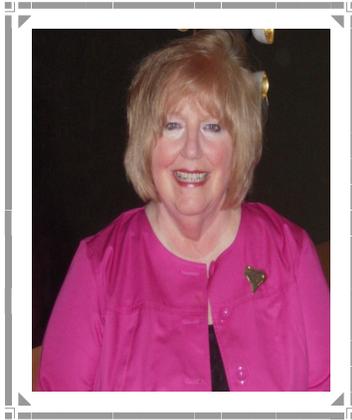
Good-bye and Thank You!

Christine Zichello



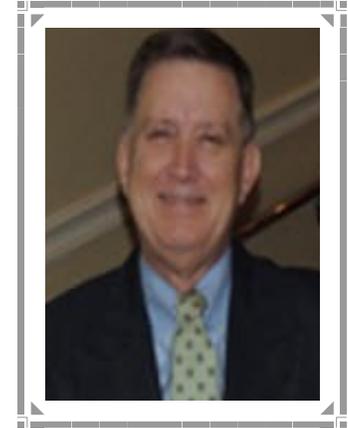
Chris served four years on the Board of Directors and her contributions have been many, including two years as Treasurer and one year as the Chair of the Governing Council. A large part of Chris's legacy lies in her dedication to the structural functions of the ABOHN business. We will miss Chris' wisdom, guidance and smile.

Margaret Manuszak



Peg served for four years on the ABOHN Board of Directors; including as Chair from 2012-2014 and was instrumental in working on ABOHN's 5 year strategic plan. Peg brought a wealth of enthusiasm and warmth to everything she touched. It will be hard to fill Peg's shoes.

Mark Sebastian



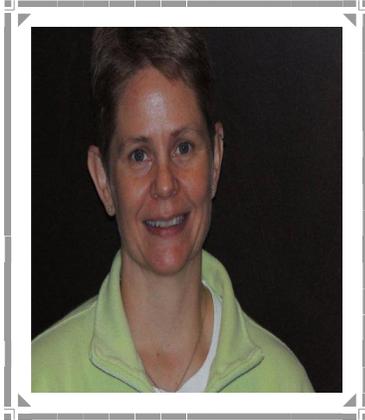
Mark served for two years on the BOD and his talents were used on the Public Relations and Nominating committees. Mark worked tirelessly in promoting ABOHN and was instrumental in cultivated new recruits onto the Board. ABOHN is grateful for Mark's practical and professional guidance.

Thank You for
your dedication to
the American
Board for
Occupational
Health Nurses.
We wish you the
best of luck in
your future
endeavors.



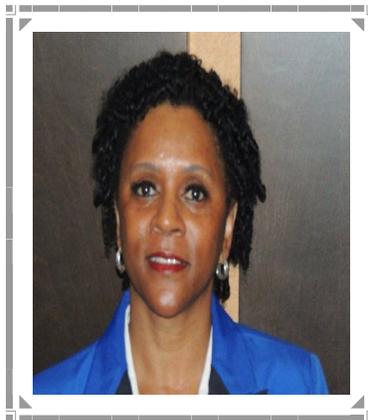
Welcome and Good-Luck!

Noreen Olson



Noreen Olson is currently the Manager, Claims at Starbucks in Seattle, WA. Noreen's philosophy is futuristic in orientation. This fits well with the ABOHN vision. To quote Noreen, "I dream of the possibilities; inspired by the potential for a better product, a better life, a better team , a better world."

Wanda Smiling



Wanda Smiling is the Wellness Center Supervisor for Perdue Farms, Inc. in Dillon, SC. Wanda 's nomination package included descriptions of her basic qualities of honesty, integrity, a sense of justice and a sound moral character that she will bring to the board.

Pamela Thomsen



Pamela Thomsen is a Health Care Manager for Humana and is located in Sun City, AZ. Pamela strongly believes that "ABOHN should have a seat at any conversation whether virtual or any other format that involves nurses, nursing and occupational health."



Welcome to the
American
Board for
Occupational
Health Nurses!
Thank you for
bringing your
talents and
commitment to
ABOHN.

ABOHN At-A-Glance

The business of credentialing starts with a group of industry professionals who believe that the “elite” of their field should be recognized.

In 1972, ABOHN was founded as an independent not-for-profit organization to set professional standards and conduct occupational health nursing specialty certification. ABOHN is the sole certifying body for occupational health nurses in the United States and awards three credentials: Certified Occupational Health Nurse (COHN), Certified Occupational Health Nurse - Specialist (COHN-S) and Case Management (CM). Nurses who carry the ABOHN credential are deemed the best in the field by their peers—a sought after honor.

ABOHN is governed by a Board of Directors who meet face to face twice a year, in January and June, and maintains a Governing Council (GC) which meets monthly by conference call. The GC consistently meet the rigors of building and maintaining a credentialing business.

These directors have the duties to care, be loyal, be obedient and to make the organization prosper.

We are often asked about our business and where we currently stand. The Statement of Financial Position details ABOHN’s financial status through December 2014.

The America Board for Occupational Health Nurses is audited on a yearly basis as we are a designated 501(c)6 organization. The results of the 2014 audit are shown on this page. If you have any questions, please contact our auditors, Bansley & Kiener, LLP located in Chicago, IL.

American Board for Occupational Health Nurses Statement of Financial Position December 2013 and 2014

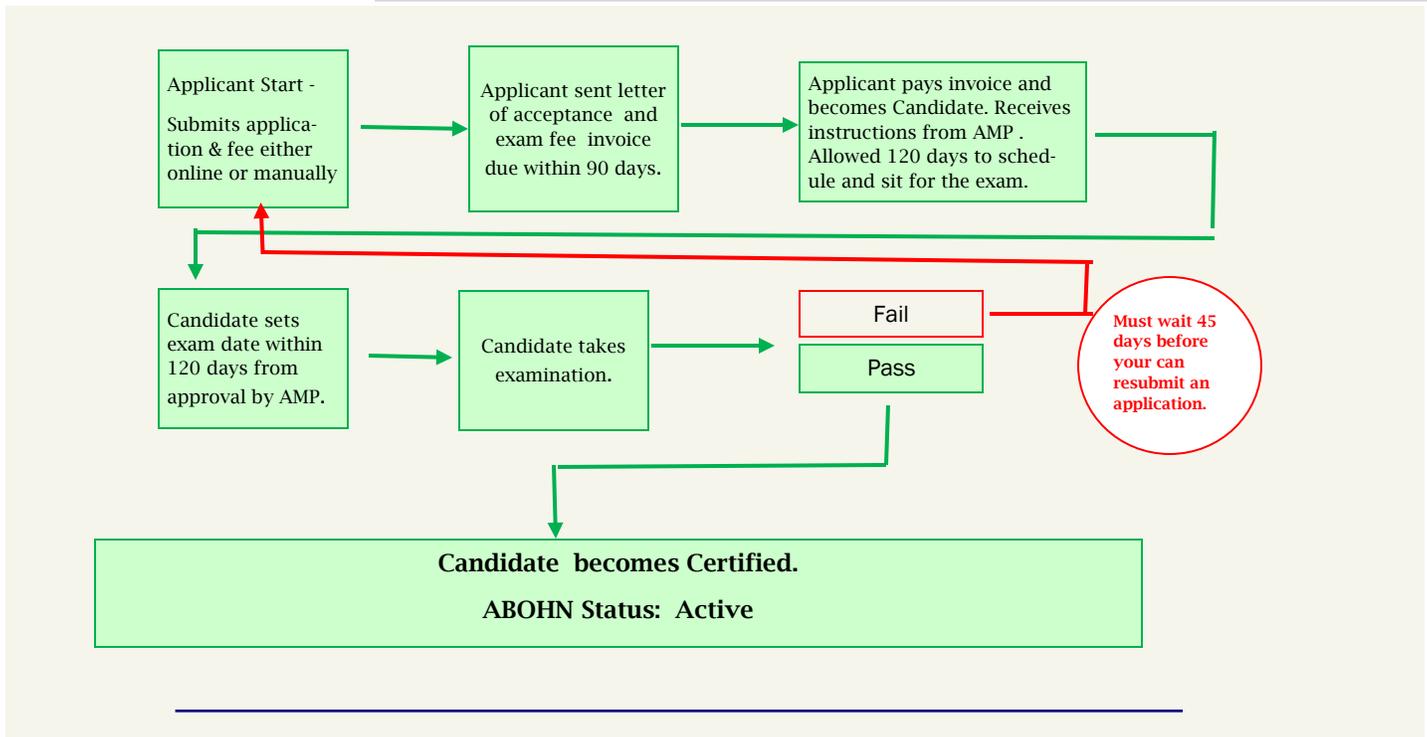
Current Assets	2014	2013
Cash	\$113,261	\$33,752
Investment Securities	\$385,788	\$570,394
Accounts Receivable	\$29,120	\$0
Prepaid Expense	\$8,365	\$17,702
Property and Equipment	\$11,633	-
Total Current Assets	\$548,167	\$621,848

Liabilities and Net Assets	2014	2013
Accounts Payable	\$23,746	\$480
Current portion of deferred fees	\$109,430	\$202,830
Total Current Liabilities	\$133,176	\$203,370
Other Liabilities		
Deferred Fees	\$38,820	\$148,250
Total Liabilities	\$171,996	\$351,620
Net Assets	\$376,171	\$270,228
Unrestricted Designation		
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$548,167	\$621,848

CERTIFICANT STATUS BY CREDENTIAL 01/31/2015

Credential	Active	Inactive	Retired
COHN	939	17	25
COHN/CM	232	1	6
COHN/SM	0	0	0
COHN/CM/SM	4	0	0
COHN-S	2577	23	253
COHN-S/CM	629	11	46
COHN-S/SM	5	0	0
COHN-S/CM/SM	7	0	0
CM	3	0	0
Total Jan. 2015	4396	52	330
Total Dec. 2014	4538	23	324

Certification Process



Renewal and Recertification Cycle

Once certified, the credential holder must continue upkeep on their credential. ABOHN currently has a yearly Renewal cycle with Recertification paperwork due every five years. The Active credential holder must continue to pay a yearly RENEWAL FEE for cycle years 1-4. All credential holders are required to RECERTIFY in their fifth year. Recertification includes fee, documentation of continuing education hours and time in industry.

YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO	YEAR THREE	YEAR FOUR	YEAR FIVE
Newly Certified: Credential in good standing for one year.	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 starting in January 2013 and we are now in our third year.
- Those certification holders who received their credentials prior to 2013 will be changed to this Renewal and Recertification schedule as they reach their next Recertification deadline schedule.

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 at AAOHN Exhibit and Reception

The AAOHN National Conference was held in Boston, MA during the week of March 23 -26, 2015. Boston was chosen to represent NEAOHN's 100th year and the rich history of occupational health nursing.

"Reimagining AAOHN: Honoring Our Roots to Secure our Future"

CEO Ann Lachat (retired) spoke to the first time attendees and presented the group with copies of our Career Guide and brochures to help them understand the roles and especially, the benefits of becoming Board Certified.

Our exhibit booth was packed with both old and new friends! Lots of information was given away and questions were asked and answered on everything ranging from how to study for the test to the current maintenance cycle of the credentials.

After the exhibiting was over, it was time to honor and welcome all OHN's to the ABOHN reception. Our room at the Westin was lovely and the 250 (+) crowd all seemed to have a wonderful time. This reception not only promotes networking and connections, but honors many individuals. We present awards to those nurses who have achieved the highest score on the previous years' examinations and this year, we honored Premise Health, as our Vendor of the Year. Premise Health consistently demonstrates commitment to the OHN profession and to ABOHN.

Along with the formal reception agenda, ABOHN this year gave out chances to win a few prizes, including gift certificates for an exam fee (\$400 value) and a yearly renewal (up to \$200 value).

Our reception was extremely well attended and the atmosphere was filled with excitement. Our award winners were presented with plaques for their achievements and were recognized on stage.



ABOHN at AAOHN Reception Memories



Award Winner - Debra L Fischer Gibbon Excellence in OHN

Dr. Deborah A. Sampson, PhD, FNP-BC, APRH, FAANP, COHN-S



Dr. Sampson hails from Hancock, New Hampshire and her current roles include independent consultant, clinician and researcher.

Her clinical specialties include medical evaluation of workplace injuries, wellness improvement, infectious disease, orthopedic diagnosis, and application of multi-disciplinary evidence based practice for managing illness and injury.

Her dedication to research has helped her to publish more than 20 articles and book chapters. Some of her published topics include national and state health regulations, barriers to health care, genetic research of hypertension in African American populations, historical analyses of illnesses, and nursing practice across the lifespan.

Dr. Sampson has been a family nurse practitioner in primary care, urgent care and occupational health for 20 years. A graduate of Western Connecticut State and Yale Universities, Dr. Sampson earned a doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

Dr. Sampson has international experience in various areas including research and consulting within Africa, Central America and Southeast Asia. She also has held several faculty and administrative posi-

tions, teaching across nursing education programs at several universities.

While co-director of the NIOSH Educational and Research Center in the School of Nursing at the University of Michigan, Dr. Sampson developed an Occupational Health Nurse Practitioner concentration. She has worked as a nurse practitioner clinician for Occupational Health Connections throughout New Hampshire, as well as at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Michigan.

This is not the first award Dr. Sampson has been given. The list includes:

- New Hampshire Nurse Advocate of the Year Award
- New Hampshire State Nurse Practitioner of the Year Award
- Barbara Brodie Nursing History Research Fellowship (University of Virginia)
- Teresa Christy Award for Excellence in Research and Writing

We wish Dr. Sampson congratulations and continued success in her career.

This prestigious award is presented annually to the occupational health nurse who receives the highest score on the previous year's 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.

Certified Occupational Health Nurse-Specialist (COHN-S)

Award Winner - Marguerite Ahern Graff Excellence in OHN

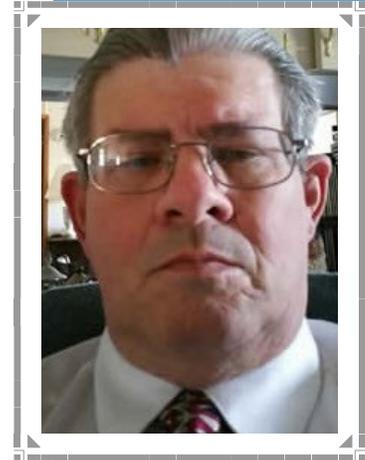
Raymond Shanahan, RN, COHN

This year, the 2014 Marguerite Ahern Graff Excellence Award was presented to Raymond Shanahan. Raymond began his career in nursing working as an EMT in the Emergency Department while attending school to complete his degree. He was employed as a nurse in 1982 and sent to the Telemetry floor to do his "mandatory" 6 months on the floor as a nurse. He was quickly placed back in the Emergency Department and remained in that area of nursing for the next 30 years with a few interruptions including a positions in a mobile cardiac cath lab and ICU.

Raymond began in Occupational Health when a friend pointed him to an opening covering for a Nurse at Piper Aircraft. He learned the role of Occupational Health and this new opportunity allowed him to grow in both his career and the occupational health industry. Seeing first hand the benefits for the employees is the greatest and at times, the most challenging experience. He enjoys the teaching aspect of Occupational Health and the development of a safe and healthy environment at work.

Raymond has a lovely wife who has stood by him for the last 25 years and a 14 year old son who is home schooled. He enjoys nature and living on a lake where excellent fishing is at the end of the path. He has recently returned to school at Jacksonville University and honestly states that he "finds it extremely challenging after not being in school for 30 years!" If having the highest score on our COHN examination is any indication, we believe Raymond will have no trouble being at the head of his class at Jacksonville University!

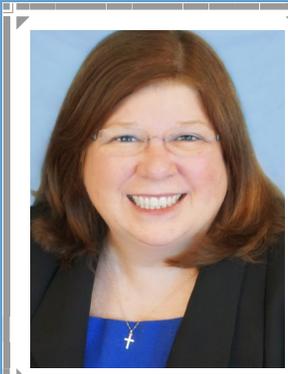
We wish Raymond congratulations and much success in his future endeavors.



The ABOHN Marguerite Ahern Graff Excellence Award was established in 1997 to honor ABOHN's first chair, Marguerite Ahern Graff, for her tireless devotion to the development of the COHN certification credential and is presented each year to the nurse who achieved the highest score on the COHN exam.

Award Winners - Ada Mayo Stewart Excellence in OHN Case Management

Lauren O'Rourke, RN, BS, COHN-S/CM



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. In her practice at the Vermont Marble Company, she worked in the clinic, provided health education for employees and their families and made home visits.

ABOHN presents this award annually to the individual who achieved the highest score on the previous year's CM certification exam.

This year, ABOHN had two individuals who tied for award.

Lauren O'Rourke is employed as a Coordinator for Occupational Medicine Service for Atlantic Health System Occupational Medicine Service based at Newton Medical Center. Her Responsibilities include both Disability and Worker's Comp Case Management. Lauren has been at Newton for 28 years. She began as a Medical Surgical RN, telemetry RN, and Nursing Educator. Then she switched to Occupational Medicine in 2001. At first she was the Manager of Employee Health until the merger with Atlantic Health Systems and became the Coor-

dinator of Occupational Medicine Service.

Developing Case Management skills became a necessity when a change in Worker's Compensation companies moved the responsibility to Employee Health. It's a job she really enjoys.

Lauren is a graduate of SUNY Plattsburg with a BS in Health Education and County College of Morris with a degree in Nursing. Both degrees are useful in her current position.

Lauren resides in NJ. She is Mom to son Chris and his wife Erica. She enjoys family, friends, books, travel, and her Airedale, Duffy.

Angeli Mancuso graduated from the University of California at Santa Barbara with a Bachelor's in Linguistics in 2003. After working for about 3 years in the business side of healthcare, Angeli realized that nursing was really where she wanted to be. She returned to school in the evenings to fulfill her prerequisite coursework for nursing school and enrolled full-time in 2007.

Angeli currently works for Cottage Health System in Santa Barbara, CA. and is the Employee Health & Safety Supervisor where she wears multiple hats serving the 3500+ employee population of the health system including workers' compensation case management, regulatory compliance and various employee safety issues.

Angeli earned the COHN-S credential in 2013, and she was awarded the Mayrose Snyder Excellence Award (now, the Deborah L. Fischer Gibbon Excellence Award) for achieving the highest score in her COHN-S class.

Congratulation Lauren and Angeli!

Angeli Mancuso, RN, BA, COHN-S/CM



Angeli was unable to attend the AAOHN conference. She is pictured here with her award which was presented to her by Mary Gene Ryan at the California meeting of Occupational Health Nurses.

Case Management (CM)

Vendor Recognition Award

Two industry pioneers – Take Care Employer Solutions and Comprehensive Health Services – came together with an idea to create Premise Health. Their idea was that healthcare should be about more than treating people when they're sick.

Premise Health helps some of the world's best companies keep their people at their best, with onsite health programs that align with client needs, goals, and benefit strategies.

Premise Health gives organizations new ways to manage ever-rising healthcare costs and stay ahead of the competition. In short, they help people – and the organizations they work for – keep their edge, day after day.

Premise has helped ABOHN on numerous occasions. Whenever we ask—we receive! ABOHN works on a very small budget, and this year Premise Health helped ABOHN to defray the cost of updating and printing new brochures for our marketing campaigns. Premise Health is willing to help ABOHN in any way they can. Not only do they send their nurses to be certified but always answer our calls for help.

Mr. Stuart Clark, Premise Health's CEO stated that "through certification ABOHN has played an immeasurable role in so many aspects of our industry and in the countless lives of our patient base." Premise supports and promotes the certification of all their nurses.

Accepting the award for Premise Health at the 2015 ABOHN Reception is Premise Health Associate Vice President Catherine Pepler, RN, BS, MBA, COHN-S/CM, FAAOHN.

THANK YOU - PREMISE HEALTH!

Pictured below (left) Ann M. Lachat, RN, BSN, FAAOHN, COHN-S/CM (CEO retired) presenting the Vendor Recognition Award. Accepting the award at the 2015 ABOHN Reception is Premise Health Associate Vice President Catherine Pepler, RN, BS, MBA, FAAOHN, COHN-S/CM



Vendor Recognition Award

ABOHN Updates



- My account
- Directory Profile
- Log out

American Board for Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.

BOARD CERTIFICATION: *Engage Excellence*



ABOUT ABOHN ▾ CERTIFICATION ▾ MAINTENANCE ▾ AWARDS ▾ RESOURCES ▾ DIRECTORY

ABOHN'S new website!

ABOHN has been developing a new website using Drupal® technology. Drupal is an open source network of modules that allow developers ease of use when upgrading /changing their site.

Drupal provides a scalable, flexible platform for any organization to innovate in a fast-changing digital

world -- to create and manage web content and engaging digital experiences.

ABOHN's credential holders will see a few changes in this first launch. Some of these changes are better placement of information and additional, expandable areas to list your contact hours when its time for you to recertify.

When ABOHN is ready to expand its capabilities, Drupal® modules will be easy to connect to our existing framework without the cost and hours usually needed for a customized upgrade. We are excited about our new site and hope you will be too! Look in your email for additional information.

Our new site will require you to **use your preferred email** as your User ID.

To update your email address, you can go to our existing website and update your information using the Directory tab, or send an email to us at info@abohn.org .

New Email System



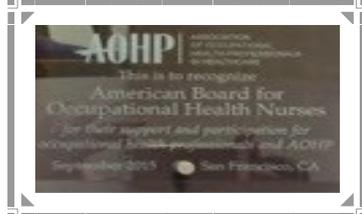
ABOHN has been testing the email system Constant Contact with great results! Communicating with our credential holders is important to us. Getting information out quickly, such as job postings and credentialing changes are imperative to you, our credential holder, as well as to our business. We are using Constant Contact which allows the recipient the option to “unsubscribe” if so chosen. This is one of many features that can help streamline the effort to get important, critical data to our credential holders.

We rely on your “preferred email” that was indicated on the latest form/application submitted by our credential holders. If you need to update your information, please go to the login to our current website and updated your information using Directory tab.

ABOHN at AOHP 2015 Conference



ABOHN attended and exhibited at the AOHP (Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare) Conference held September 9-12, 2015 in San Francisco, CA. There were 237 attendees registered and the conference was a great success! ABOHN’s booth was humming all three days and we touched base with our some of our active credential holders as well as occupational health nurses who are new to the industry.



ABOHN was honored as the AOHP 2015 Business Recognition Award winner!

ABOHN at Midwest Regional Occupational Health Conference

ABOHN exhibited at the Midwest Regional Occupational Health Conference in September 2015 at the Chula Vista resort in the Wisconsin Dells. The meeting was hosted by the SEWAOHN (Southeast Wisconsin Chapter) and the theme was “**Reuse, Reduce, Recycle**”. The three day conference provided classes on a variety of subjects including OSHA updates and topics which fit with their theme:

- **Reuse** - “Workers Rehabilitation -Re-using Employees”;
- **Reduce** - “Workers Compensation—Reduce your work!”
- **Recycle** - “Is your waste safe?”

On Thursday, the WSAOHN (Wisconsin Association of Occupation Health Nursing) held a luncheon and their annual meeting where they recognized their members who recently achieved ABOHN certification. Congratulations to:

Jill Arendt, COHN; Melinda Check, COHN-S/CM; Mark Heffernan, COHN-S; Helen Mozuch, COHN-S; Lisa Scherrer, COHN-S, Coleen Hasler, COHN-S/CM and Janice Johnson, COHN.



Pictured above ABOHN newly certified occupational health nurses (l-r): Janice Johnson, COHN and Melinda Check, COHN-S/CM

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. Starting later this year, ABOHN will host live webinars directed at each credential and will teach you the basics of item writing.

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 participating in one or more webinar, please send us an email at info@abohn.org. Our Executive Director and committee members will be forming groups soon and contacting those certified OHN’s who have shown interest.

THANK YOU!

ABOHN Vision Statement

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

ABOHN's Mission

is to promote a standard of excellence in occupational health nursing through credentialing

ABOHN 2015 Survey of Newly Credentialed Occupational Health Nurses

ABOHN has been surveying those nurses who received their certification in 2014 after we received their first year Renewal documentation. Our surveys serve two purposes:

- (1) a baseline for targeting our marketing areas for building our bank of credentialed nurses, and
- (2) any changes in job duties and/or benefits received from achieving certification.

Since January 2015, we have sent 65 surveys and have a response rate of 35%.

(1) How did you learn about OHN?	a) Colleague b) Employer	21% 70%
(2) How did you first enter the practice of OHN?	a) From other nursing practice	35%
(3) In your current position, is certification in OHN....	a) Recommended/Preferred	52%
(4) How did your employer learn about OHN?	a) From an industry advocate	70%
(5) Where did your employer advertise for an OHN?	a) National Job boards (Monster, Indeed, etc.)	35%
(6) Did your employer advertise for a CERTIFIED OHN?	a) Yes	39%
(7) After receiving certification, what benefits did you receive? (multiple answers were given)	a) Pay raise b) New position	39% 22%
(8) After certification, what changes in your practice have you experienced? (multiple answers were given)	a) Recognized as expert in OH field b) Consulted more frequently c) Given more responsibility	43% 30% 22%
(9) In what ways does your management support your certification in OHN?	a) Pay for continuing education b) Pay for application and exam fees c) Pay for recertification fees d) Allow paid time off for continuing education	61% 48% 43% 48%

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