



American Board for
Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.

Fall 2012 Volume 33 Number 2

Introducing ABOHN's New Chair



"Order! Order! Let the meeting now come to order!"



The new Board Chair is Margaret A. Manuszak, RN, MS, FAAOHN, COHN-S/CM and Corporate Nurse Manager of Perdue Inc. Ms. Manuszak was elected to serve a one year term in this role. She has served on the 2009 ABOHN Practice Analysis Committee and the ABOHN Board since 2010. Ms. Manuszak has a Master's of Science Degree in Health Administration.



MESSAGE FROM THE
ABOHN CHAIR

by Peggy Manuszak

I am thrilled to be able to welcome you to the Fall 2012 edition of the ABOHN newsletter.

As the newly elected chair, I can assure you that this Board of Directors has been hard at work on your behalf, planning for the future of ABOHN's credentials and the impact this

certification has on the occupational health industry.

Take a peek inside the newsletter and you will find that ABOHN has had an exciting year so far!

You might find yourself or some friends in the pictures we took at ABOHN's 40th anniversary reception held during the AAOHN National Conference last April at the Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville, Tennessee. We completed the Practice Analysis and used the results to keep the COHN, COHN-S and Case Management (CM) exams current to industry practice. Read the latest outcomes of our on-going survey of first time recertifying OHNs to see how obtaining certification impacts their careers.

In June, we bade good-bye to some old friends and welcomed new board members into our fold. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Brian

Verrall, former chair, for his leadership over the past few years. He served the Board well and continues to be a constant supporter of credentialing.

As spokesperson for the ABOHN Board of Directors, I want to reiterate that we understand what your credential means to you, both personally and professionally. I want to assure you that your Board is committed to maintaining and promoting the excellence that an ABOHN credential symbolizes, and we hope that each of you, our credential holders, will encourage an occupational health nurse colleague to consider certification.

Be recognized for the knowledge that you have!

Happy Halloween, stay safe, be well and watch out for the goblins!

Peggy Manuszak
Chair

Accredited by the National

Commission for Certifying Agencies



PROUD MEMBER



Inside this edition...

- ABOHN's new fees and schedules to take effect January 1, 2013
- New ABOHN Board Members
- Awards in Excellence
- Someone You Should Know!
- ABOHN Employer Award Winner 2012

Changes in ABOHN's Fee Structure—Start date January 1, 2013

The Board of Directors and Staff have been working to keep all operating cost to a minimum in these difficult years of recession, but due to all the increased costs of our operations, it is impossible to remain at the same level for the fees for certification and recertification. In addition, many credential holders have requested to pay their fees on a yearly basis. They felt this would be much less of a financial burden.

The last time ABOHN increased recertification fees was in 2009. Other fees for applications, examinations and credential maintenance have not been changed since 2002. As of January 1, 2013, the cost and method of payment for application, examination and recertification will change. The cost of each fee will be as follows:

APPLICATION FEES	
COHN, COHN-S, Case Management (CM) and Safety Management (SM) Application Fees	\$150
EXAMINATION FEES	
COHN and COHN-S Examination Fee	\$400
Case Management Examination Fee	\$250
Safety Management Examination Fee	\$400
YEARLY CREDENTIAL MAINTENANCE FEES	
Core Credentials—COHN and COHN-S	\$150
Case Management	\$50
Safety Management	\$100

After all examinations are successfully completed, you will be billed an adjusted fee for your first year of certification. In addition, successful case management and safety management candidates will have their credential payments adjusted to coincide with their core credential for recertification.

Starting January 1, 2013, the cost of renewal of recertification will be billed yearly. This process will begin with the credential holders due for recertification in 2013. All credential holders will have to submit their recertification paperwork and a renewal fee for their core credential and the specialty certification of case management and safety management on the dates specific to their certification. **Instructions will be sent to credential holders regarding their credentials and billing information prior to the date they are due. It is extremely important** that we have the updated and correct information regarding your home address for our mailing purposes. Due dates for recertification **will not** be modified due to this new billing adjustment.

Meet the 2012-2013 Board of Directors



Front Row L-R: Eileen Maloney-White, Elizabeth Beaty, Christine Zichello, Barbara McCarthy, Sara Peterson, Paula Kerns, Ann Lachat; Back Row L-R: Jennifer Lim, Margaret Manuszak, Roger Brauer, James Cooley, Carole Cusack and (not pictured) Paula Clay.

Reciprocity Agreement with Canada

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding Reciprocity was signed with the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) on August 24, 2012. The agreement will be in place until 2014. This MOU allows certified occupational health nurses holding the American Board for Occupational Health Nurses, Inc. (ABOHN) credentials of Certified Occupational Health Nurse (COHN) or Certified Occupational Health Nurse-Specialist (COHN-S), the ability to apply for reciprocity with the Canadian Nurses Association. In turn, this allows any certified occupational health nurse holding the Certified Occupational Health Nurse COHN(C) to apply for reciprocity with ABOHN.

Contained in this MOU is a statement relating to both the U.S. and Canadian privacy legislations that have taken effect since the last MOU. Nurses from both countries should be aware of this change in our contract with Canada.

CNA is conducting a review of all of their eligibility criteria for their certification specialties. All the current eligibility criteria will be reviewed against standards in other certification programs, both within and outside of nursing. The reciprocity agreement between CNA and ABOHN will also serve as context for review of the OHN eligibility criteria.

Chair

Margaret A. Manuszak, RN, MS, FAAOHN, COHN-S/CM

Secretary

Paula Kerns, RN, BA, COHN-S

Treasurer

Christine R. Zichello, RN, BS, CSHM, ARM, FAAOHN, COHN-S

COHN-S Examination Committee Chair

Paula Clay, RN, MPH, COHN/CM/SM

COHN Examination Committee Chair

James J. Cooley, RN, BSN, COHN

DIRECTORS

Elizabeth S. Beaty, RN, MSN, COHN/CM

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

Jennifer J. Lim, RN, MSN, FAAOHN, COHN-S/CM

Eileen Maloney-White, RN, BSc, LNC-CSp, COHN(C), COHN

Barbara L. McCarthy, RN, MSED, COHN

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

STAFF

Ann M. Lachat, RN, BSN, FAAOHN, COHN-S/CM

Chief Executive Officer

Carole M. Cusack, MBA

Managing Director

Margaret (Molly) Taylor
Administrative Assistant

Maureen Robst, BA
Data Entry Operator



American Board for
Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.

Welcome to ABOHN's New Board Members

ABOHN's Board is composed of professionals from several regions of the United States and an At-Large member representing our Canadian credential holders. At the summer meeting of the Board of Directors held in Oak Brook, Illinois, five new directors were added to the ABOHN Board. The members of the Board represent a wide variety of industries, educational backgrounds and experience. They bring a balance of perspectives for decisions regarding the certification process.

Elizabeth Beaty, RN, MSN, COHN/CM, currently works as the Corporate Manager, Medical Services and Claims for Dillard Smith Construction Company of Alabama. She has a Master's of Science in Nursing and Health Education from the University of Phoenix. She has also received an award for leadership in nursing from the University of Alabama where she completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Ms. Beaty is from Fort Payne, Alabama and will represent the South East Region.

Roger Brauer, Ph.D., PE, is a consultant and author of *Exceptional Certification, 2011*. Dr. Brauer is the former Executive Director of the Board of Certified Safety Professionals and the Council of Certification of Health, Environmental and Safety Technologists. Dr. Brauer has served on the Boards of the American Society of Safety Engineers, the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology and the American National Standards Institute. Dr. Brauer will serve as a Public Member of the ABOHN Board.

Sara Peterson, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM, currently works as the Occupational Health Specialist for Pentair Technical Products of Anoka, Minnesota. Ms. Peterson began her nursing education with an Associate in Nursing from North Hennepin Community College and also a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minnesota. She has a Public Health Certificate and resides in Lindstrom, Minnesota. Ms. Peterson will represent the North Central Region.

Eileen Maloney-White, RN, BSc, LNC-CSp, COHN(C), COHN, is the Regions Manager Health and Disability Service for Jazz Aviation, LP. She has a Bachelor of Marine Science from the University of West Indies, Jamaica and Associate Arts Degree in Nursing from Victoria, B.C. She has served as an assistant presiding officer for the Canadian Registered Nurses Exam and as a mentor for the Occupational Health Nursing for the Canadian Nurses Association. Ms. Maloney-White is from Surrey, British Columbia, Canada and will represent the At-Large Region.

Barbara McCarthy, RN, MSED, COHN, is the Occupational Health and Wellness Manager for Albe-marle Hospital and Adjunct Faculty for Elizabeth City State University of Elizabeth City, NC. Ms. McCarthy started in nursing as an LPN, and then a Diploma in Nursing from Helene Fuld School of Nursing and an Associate in Science from the Virginia Commonwealth University. She received a Bachelor of Science and Master's of Science in Education from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University of Blacksburg, Virginia. She is from Camden, North Carolina and will represent the South East Region.



Left to right: 2012-2013 ABOHN Newly Elected Directors: Eileen Maloney-White, Barbara McCarthy, Elizabeth Beaty, Sara Peterson and Roger Brauer.

Thank you to our Retiring Board Members

Brian Verrall (Chair 2011-2012) served four years from 2008-2012. This was Brian's second term serving on the Board of Directors. Previously, Brian served from 1991 through 1995, again retiring as the Board Chair. Brian is from Ancaster, Ontario, Canada and is the Executive Director of the Ontario Occupational Health Nurses Association. Brian brought in-depth perspectives of Occupational Health Nursing issues which he learned while employed as a Nursing Consultant for the Canadian Ministry of Labour and as an Assistant Clinical Professor at McMaster University.

Trina Girimont is the current Director of Shands Health Care Occupational Health Services located in Gainesville, Florida. Trina's work with ABOHN included working on the COHN-S Advisory Board, the Public Relations Committee, the Finance Committee, the Policy & Procedure and By-laws Committee, as well as Chairing both the COHN-S Advisory Board and the Research Committee. Trina served four years (2008-2012) on the ABOHN Board.



Left to right: Retiring BOD Members: Brian Verrall, Trina Girimont, Deborah George, Peggy Ross and (not pictured) Robert Brooks.

Peggy Ross is from ABOHN's home state of Illinois! Peggy is currently employed as the Manager of Environmental Health and Safety at Baxter Healthcare Corporation located in Deerfield, Illinois. Peggy served on the ABOHN Board of Directors from 2008 to 2012. Peggy used her unique talents while serving on the COHN Advisory Committee, the Finance Committee and the Research Committee. Peggy served as the ABOHN Secretary (2010 - 2011), and Peggy chaired the Safety Advisory and the Public Relations Committees.

THANK YOU!

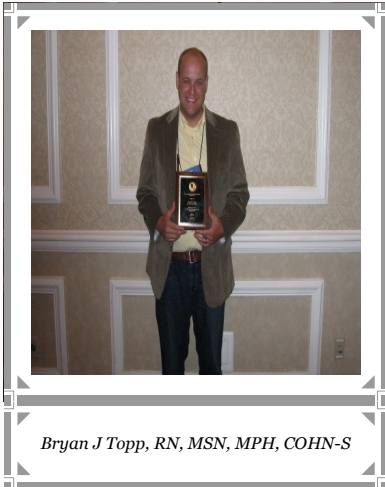
Deborah George brought her talents to ABOHN in 2008 and served until June of 2012. Deb is the current Manager of the Workers' Compensation and Disability program at the Celanese Corporation in Dallas, Texas. Deb's commitment to the ABOHN Board showed in her service as a committee member of the COHN Advisory Board, the Nominating Committee, the Research Committee, the Safety Advisory Committee, the Policy & Procedure and Bylaws Committee along with chairing both the Case Management Committee and the Finance Committee, and Deb served as the Treasurer for the 2011-2012 year.

Robert Brooks served as ABOHN's Public Member from 2008-2012. Robert holds the Certified Safety Professions (CSP) designation and is currently employed as the Senior Director of Environmental Health and Safety for Shaws Energy and Chemical, Fossil Power located in Charlotte, North Carolina. While on the Board of Directors, Robert served on the Safety Advisory Committee, the Public Relations Committee and the Research Committee.

ABOHN's 2011 Award Recipients



The reception is not only a place to meet and socialize with each other, it also is a time to recognize those who achieve outstanding results on their exams from the previous year.



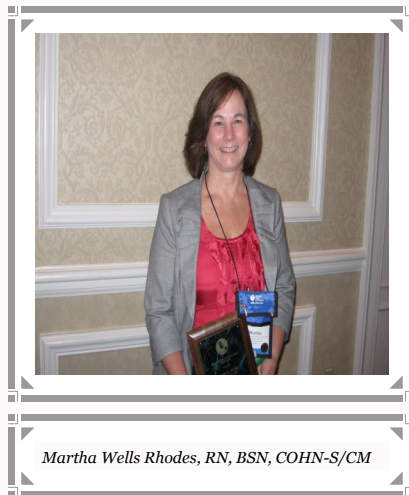
Bryan J Topp, RN, MSN, MPH, COHN-S

Bryan J. Topp, RN, MSN, MPH, COHN-S was presented with the 2011 Mayrose Snyder Excellence in Occupational Health Nursing Award for achieving the highest COHN-S examination score. Bryan has a diverse nursing background including work as a Travel Nurse. This experience took him to a general clinic setting in Nairobi, Kenya. This global experience inspired him to return to the United States and pursue his higher education goals. In 2010, Bryan graduated from the University of Minnesota with dual degrees, Master's of Science in Nursing and Master's of Pubic Health. Bryan landed the position of Occupational Health Nurse for The 3M Company where he is responsible for more than 700 employees at the Minnesota production facility.

In 2011, we had two individuals tie for the Ada Mayo Stewart Excellence in Occupational Health Nursing Case Management Award. The first recipient, **Mary A. Kelly, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM**, received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Fitchburg State College in Massachusetts and has been an RN for the past 20 years. Early on, Mary worked as a staff nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge. Mary's career path branched out to include work in the occupational health field, and she practiced at companies including Osram Sylvania, Gillette and Intel Corporation. For the past ten years, Mary has been employed full time as an OHN Clinician at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. Mary achieved her COHN-S in 2006 and her Case Management (CM) credential in 2011.

Unfortunately, ABOHN does not have pictures of Julie Hewey or Mary A. Kelly.

Julie Hewey, RN, COHN earned the highest COHN examination score and received the Marquerite Ahern Graff Excellence in Occupational Health Nursing award. In 1982, Ms. Hewey graduated with her RN from Hahnemann Hospital School of Nursing located in Worcester, Massachusetts and began her career at the Day Kimball Hospital in Connecticut. For twelve years, Julie worked as an acute care nurse in a hospital setting. In 1994, Julie's career changed when she landed a job with Putnam Medical Associates, a very busy family practice clinic that also provided occupational health services for the local area. Julie refined her skills and added the occupational health services component to her repertoire. She stayed with Putnam until 2010 when she returned to her previous employer, Day Kimball Hospital as an Employee Health Nurse. Julie has risen in the ranks and has been promoted to the position of Employee Health Coordinator for approximately 1,200 employees at the Day Kimball Hospital.



Martha Wells Rhodes, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM

Martha Wells Rhodes, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM, attended Ball State University and graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 1981. She began her career in nursing at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana where she worked on a cardiovascular and thoracic surgery/telemetry unit. After time, Martha decided to make a change and moved into the home care and diabetes inpatient field. In 1988, Martha transitioned into the Occupational Health Nursing field and has been with Community Health Networks Infinity Employer Health Solutions for the past 18 years. This career has given her many opportunities to broaden her practice. Some of the settings Martha has worked at included outpatient clinics, the US Customs Service and manufacturing offices including Carrier, International Truck and Engine, the Navistar foundry and Eli Lilly. Martha is currently the on-site Occupational Health Nurse at Frito-Lay in Frankfort, Indiana. Dedicated to her practice, Martha pursued her COHN-S in 2010 and followed up with the Case Management (CM) certification in 2011. Martha is our additional winner of the Ada Mayo Excellence in Occupational Health Nursing Case Management Award.

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 ★ Congratulations ★
 ★ to all our ★
 ★ winners! ★
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ABOHN at AAOHN! 2012 Exhibitor Booth



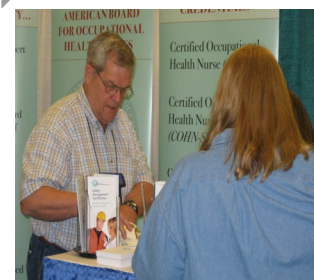
Peg Manuszak, Paula Kerns & Pam Hart.

What fun we had! Peg Manuszak, Paula Kerns, Pam Hart, Brian Verrall, Ann Lachat and Carole Cusack hosted the ABOHN booth during the AAOHN 2012 National Convention at the Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville, Tennessee. The ABOHN booth was

constantly booming with old friends renewing acquaintances and new credential holders enthusiastically relating their personal success stories!

We were thrilled we had a record number of RNs asking for information on the credentialing process.

Our booth was strategically placed to intersect with other great exhibitors and the wonderful treats provided by AAOHN. It was truly a great success!



Brian working hard!

2012 Reception & Award Ceremony



Once again, our Board Member Jennifer Lim, put on a spectacular silent auction in conjunction with our reception. This is the third year we held a silent auction to benefit our Practice Analysis. We are grateful to the many individual donations of fabulous and whimsical prizes we received that delighted our reception attendees. Some of the great auction items were Tiffany jewelry, Kindles and sporting event tickets.

In answer to many who have asked...YES! We will present another silent auction at next year's conference; our committee is already hard at work!

Many thanks to Jennifer Lim, Peggy Ross, Lavonda Shires, Paula Clay, Donna Ferreira, Nadine Jones, Chris Zichello and a host of others who contributed their time and talents to making this such a huge success.

THANK YOU!!!



ABOHN Celebrates



40th Anniversary



ABOHN's 2012 Employer of the Year—Johnson & Johnson

The ABOHN Employer of the Year Excellence Award was presented to Johnson & Johnson (J&J). Johnson & Johnson is a trusted and known brand and in 2011, celebrated their 125th anniversary. Started in 1886 by three brothers, Johnson & Johnson went into business to improve hospital sanitation practices and launched their first product—a line of ready-to-use surgical products.

Now, in 2012, Johnson & Johnson has over 250 subsidiary companies in 57 countries, employs over 114,000 people and is responsible for over 200 consumer brands.

Johnson & Johnson was nominated by employee Janice McHugh, RN, DBA, COHN-S. Ms. McHugh detailed the company's commitment to all of their employees. Expressed in the heart of their values credo that was written in 1943, Johnson & Johnson acknowledges their responsibility to the men and women who work in their companies throughout the world and point to areas such as fair and adequate compensation, clean, orderly and safe working conditions, and equal opportunities for employment development and advancement for those who are qualified.

One way that Johnson & Johnson demonstrates commitment to their workforce is showcased by the way

they support ABOHN's credentials. Certification is a requirement for the Senior OHN level. This requirement sends a strong message throughout the entire Global Health Department that the welfare of its employees is in the most skilled and caring hands. To date, more than 75% of Johnson & Johnson's RNs have achieved certification status.

Johnson & Johnson executives promote, recognize and support each individual's path to certification by encouraging all occupational health nurses to engage in a personal development plan. To help the OHNs achieve their goals, Johnson & Johnson sponsors a "Payment for Professional Certifications" policy. An ABOHN core credential gives an OHN greater eligibility for promotion to a position with greater leadership duties and more responsibility in representing Johnson & Johnson at outside functions.

Johnson & Johnson recognizes the achievement of professional certification by announcing it to all relevant internal stakeholders, including the nurse's operating company, Human Resources, EHS staff and the company's internal media site.



Mr. Adam Glauberg, the Clinic Services Operations Director at Johnson & Johnson (center) with many of the credentialed nurses from Johnson & Johnson during the ABOHN reception at the 2012 AAOHN National Conference.

Someone You Should Know!

At the end of the day, Diane St. Pierre DeGaetano, RN, BSN, COHN-S, COHC, FFAOHN loves being an Occupational Health Nurse. Why? Because she directly impacts the health and lives of her coworkers, making sure that everyone can do their job in a more comfortable manner and safe environment.

Diane earned her RN in 1978 from Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital School of Nursing and her BSN in 1982 from Georgia State University, both in Atlanta, Georgia. "I was convinced that a hospital was the place to be," Diane told ABOHN, but a friend kept encouraging her to look into the occupational health field.

Diane's move into occupational health came in 1987 when she became the Senior Occupational Health Nurse at Scientific-Atlanta, Inc., a multi-site telecommunication company where she was responsible for the administrative staff, contract nurses and therapists. During her tenure at Scientific-Atlanta, Inc., Diane pursued and earned her COHN-S certification. "Certification is the gold standard for our profession," Diane stated. She studied hard and was on top of the world when she found out she passed the test!

With her new credential, Diane continued at Scientific-Atlanta, Inc. rising to the position of Multi-Site Health Services Coordinator. Her expertise helped her manage a successful short term disability program, direct a comprehensive health management program for U.S., Mexican and Canadian operations and head their U.S. Medical Emergency Response Team.

In 2002, Diane took a new position at Merial (a division of Sanofi) located in Duluth, Georgia. Merial is the world's leading animal healthcare company with approximately 5,500 employees worldwide. Presently, Diane holds the positions of Occupational Health Manager, Vehicle Safety Coordinator and Workers' Compensation Manager of the U.S. Region. Her primary responsibilities are the health and wellbeing of the employees in the Duluth region including 250 employees in the Avian group, 500 field sales people and 500 employees working in the business operations department. She also has approximately 30 volunteer emergency responders who report to her.

Variety is the spice of her job. Each day brings different challenges and Diane relishes it. One day, Diane might schedule mammograms, finish reports to the parent company and facilitate ALCAT testing. The next day she may deal with ergonomic issues and corporate wellness programs. She is particularly proud of their *PAWS Across America* campaign. This program has been enthusiastically adopted by about 20% of her workforce where teams of six are given pedometers and their daily step counts are recorded. The team that wins is awarded gift certificates and boasting rights! In addition to the walking challenge, Merial provides great benefits

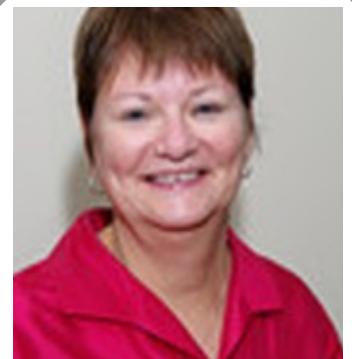
such as Zumba classes, exercise boot-camps and *Athletes at Work*, an ergonomically challenging program of stretching and balancing positions and poses for the employees to do at their desks to keep the body flexible and the mind sharp. Diane would love to roll out more wellness programs to reach more employees. Currently, she is working on how best to integrate the Fleet Safety division into the wellness campaigns, as well as the annual Health Fair which will take place in November.

Diane's commitment to Occupational Health is not only shown in her job. She has an impressive resume of awards and accomplishments. She has delivered many exciting presentations regarding the OH industry for the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN), the National Ergonomics Conference & Expo, the Georgia Department of Labor, as well as the National Safety Council National Congress, to name a few.

Her impressive track record includes appointment as a 2010 Fellow of the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, the National Association of Professional Women - 2010 Woman of the Year Award, and the 2011 "Fit Friendly Company" award from the American Heart Association. She currently serves as the President for the American Society of Safety Engineers, Georgia Chapter, NE Section, the current secretary for the Atlanta Georgia Association of Occupational Health Nurses, the Director of the Awards and Nominating Committee for the Georgia Association of Occupational Health Nurses and is the AAOHN representative for the Council for Accreditation of Occupational Hearing Conservation.

Is she busy? Not too busy to take care of her family! Diane has been married for 26 years to the "best Italian cook in Georgia" and is the proud mother of two daughters who are presently in college. One is studying Health Information Technology and the other is studying Psychology.

Diane is truly an advocate for the Occupational Health Nursing industry. She fears that OHNs aren't valued as much as they should be which is why she is so active, promoting the "bottom line - added value" that Occupational Health Nurses provide. Diane believes in helping others, not only on the job, but especially those nurses who are new to the Occupational Health field. She encourages these nurses to reach out to seasoned veterans in the industry, asking them to share their resources and experience. Of course, Diane would be delighted to share her wisdom...that's why we think *Diane DeGaetano is Someone You Should Know.*



AOHP

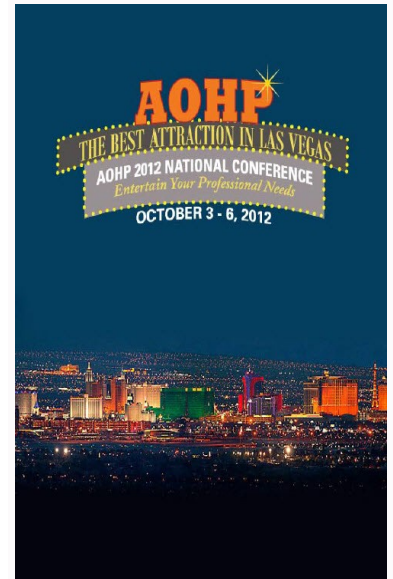
At Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, the Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP) recently held their 2012 National Conference. It was a time to refresh and renew through the educational programming provided by many experts in the occupational and related field of health and wellness.

ABOHN contributed to the educational development and knowledge of the attendees by presenting the results of our 2011 Practice Analysis and also exhibiting. In exhibiting at this conference, we provided information on certification and recertification.

We also entertained the certified occupational health nurses who

attend by hosting a reception on the last evening of the conference. We were complimented by the attendees who stated that this is the best networking reception they attend all year.

Congratulations to AOHP on a very successful conference.



CMSA

Molly Taylor represented ABOHN at the CMSA conference in June 2012 held in San Francisco, California. Approximately 850 case managers attended the conference. The case managers represented many areas of case management across the continuum. Ms. Taylor answered inquiries regarding our case management certification

process.

CMSA is a membership association dedicated to the support and professional development of case managers. CMSA's Annual Conference & EXPO is an educational event in the case management industry.

The conference offered tangible outcomes which illustrated the value of case management as key

participants in health care delivery. The conference provided the opportunity to explore prospects substantiating the need to expand and advance case management delivery and integrate skills in the case manager's expertise in the practice of case management.



Certified Occupational Health Nurses are most often independent practitioners who complete their work without direct supervision. Employers can be assured and confident that the certified COHN or COHN-S has more than basic knowledge, skills and abilities regarding health and wellness.

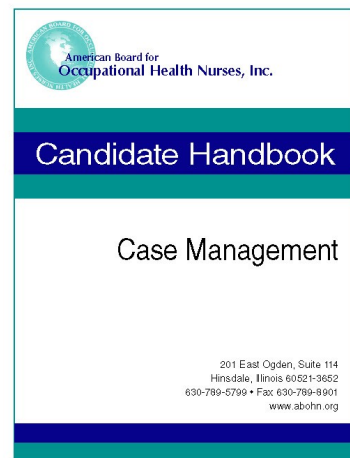
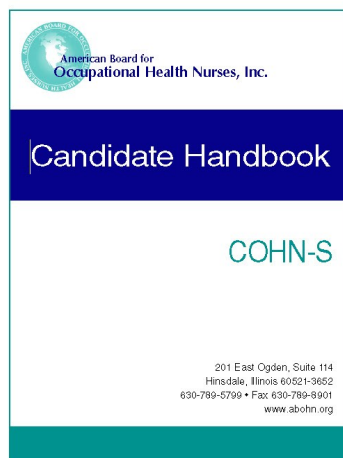
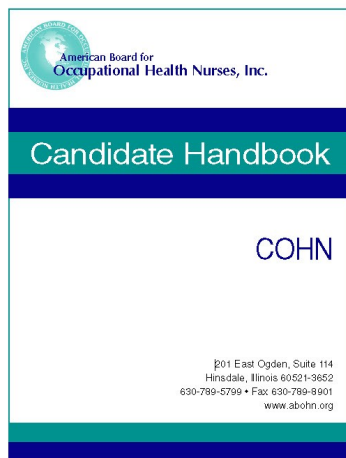
SEAK

ABOHN exhibited at the 2012 SEAK Conference held in Hyannis (Cape Cod), Massachusetts. This conference joins the nation's leading workers' compensation

professionals, occupational physicians, occupational nurses and attorneys together to discuss cutting edge issues. This conference is currently the largest and

longest running national workers' compensation and occupational medicine conference of its kind in the United States.

ABOHN's New COHN, COHN-S and CM Handbooks have arrived!



Look for the updated handbooks on our website @ www.abohn.org.

Foreign Occupational Health Nurses in the European Union (FOHNEU)

The 5th International FOHNEU Congress on Occupational Health was held September 19–21, 2012. The theme of the Congress was “Embracing the Future—Influencing Change”. The Congress was held at the Palacio de Congresos in Tarragona, Spain. The focus of the Congress was the evaluation of working life and its continuous transition in the workplace. Presenters at the conference discussed keeping pace with the changes and the various impacts of health and safety on the workforce.

The topics of the program focused on current and future trends within the field of occupational health. The committee also shared the results of the European Union study on education, competencies and advanced practice of the occupational health nurses. Some of the presenters shared their opinion of the new and emerging risks, indicators, trends and strategies in occupational health and safety in the European Union.

There were occupational health nurse representatives from Greece, Denmark, Ireland, Finland, France, Portugal, Sweden, Turkey, Hungary, England, Italy, Spain and the United States. In many countries, it is mandatory for a company to have an occupational health

nurse on staff if there are 100 employees working for the company. In the small country of Hungary, there are 3,000 occupational health nurses currently working. It was extremely interesting to meet and discuss some of the same issues we encounter in our daily practices.

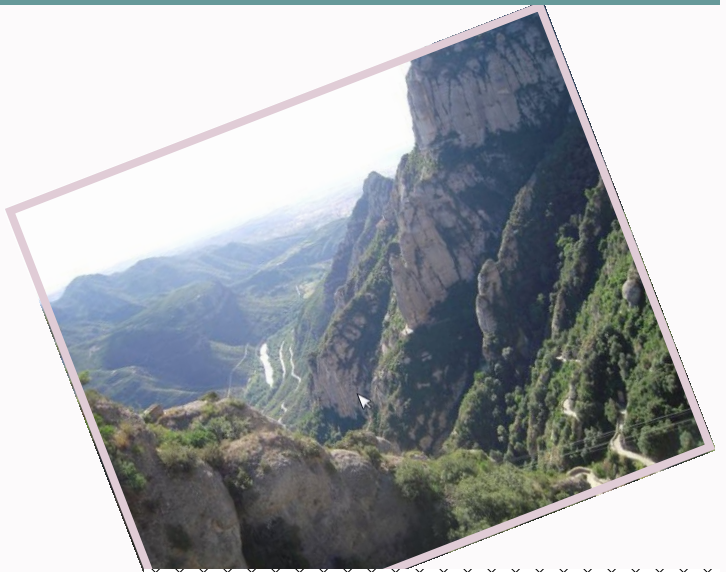
Pam Hart and Ann Lachat presented information gleaned from the recent 2011 American Board for Occupational Health Nurses Practice Analysis at the conference. They shared the purpose of the practice analysis confirming the knowledge, skills and activities currently required for the proficient practice of occupational health nursing in the United States. The demographics obtained in this study are extremely useful in describing occupational health nurses and their roles, responsibilities and the area of their practice.

Stephanie Phelps, RN, MSN, COHN-S presented a poster on Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing in the USA. Stephanie is a Doctoral student at the University of California at San Francisco.

We met Mercedes Ong, RN, MSN, COHN-S who is currently working as a contractor for the Department of the Navy in Italy. Mary Lou Wassel RN, MS, COHN-S/CM from Mead-Westvaco also attended the conference.



Front row L to R: Sylvia Van Camp, Australia, Maria Teglaszyna Bacsi, Hungary, Henriett Hirdi, Hungary.
Back Row: L to R: Mercedes Ong COHN-S, Italy, Anne Scully, Ireland, Ann Lachat COHN-S/CM, U.S.A., Mary Lou Wassel COHN-S/CM, U.S.A., Pam Hart COHN-S, U.S.A., Stephanie Phelps, COHN-S, U.S.A., Su Wang MD, United Kingdom, Gurutze Aguirre Alava, Spain.



It's Recertification Time!



It's time for your ABOHN recertification if you earned your credential in

1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002 or 2007.

Your ABOHN credential reflects your commitment to the Occupational Health Nursing(OH) Field.

Recertifying reinforces it.

The requirements for the **COHN** and **COHN-S** credentials are:

- Current active RN license
- 3000 hours as an occupational health nurse during the previous 5 years
- 50 continuing education contact hours directly related to OH.

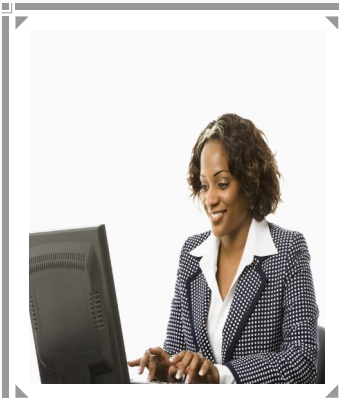
The **Case Management (CM)** credential requires an additional 10 continuing education contact hours directly related to OH Case Management.

The **Safety Management (SM)** credential requires an additional 50 continuing education contact hours directly related to OH Safety Management.

If your expiration date is 12/31/2012, ABOHN must receive your recertification application by 10/31/2012. After 10/31/2012, a \$100 late fee applies.



2012 Core Credential Benefits Survey



Occupational Health Nurses who earned certification in 2007 are up for first time recertification this year. As the ABOHN staff processes these applications, we are surveying these candidates regarding the benefits of having gained their COHN or COHN-S credential.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS PARTICIPATED SO FAR!

If you are due to recertify this year for the first time (Cohort class of 2007), please be on the lookout for our survey request. An email will contain a link to a survey that has ten questions.

Please take the time to respond; this information helps us to determine the future of your credential.

The table below shows the results we have received with 82% of COHN and 67% of COHN-S credential holders responding as of 10/8/2012.

Questions	COHN	COHN-S
In your industry, certification is recommended or preferred.	78%	59%
You received a pay raise after obtaining your credential.	45%	34%
You were given more responsibility after obtaining your credential.	38%	42%
Your company pays for recertification fees.	78%	46%
Your certification helps you to produce greater compliance with regulations.	78%	64%
Data from the effectiveness of OHN projects is used for trend analysis.	50%	55%



American Board for Occupational Health Nursing, Inc.
201 E. Ogden Ave., Suite 114
Hinsdale, IL 60521

Phone: 630-789-5799 Toll Free: 888-842-2646 Fax: 630-789-8901
 Website: www.abohn.org email: info@abohn.org