

# The ABOHN REPORT



American Board for  
Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.



Spring 2014—Volume 35—Issue 1



## MESSAGE FROM THE ABOHN CHAIR

by *Peggy Manuszak*

Come to the AAOHN 2014 Conference in Dallas, Texas next month and meet your ABOHN Board of Directors. We will be in the Exhibit Hall

in Booth # 409 ready to welcome our board certified nurses and those who are interested in board-certification in our specialty.

ABOHN will again be hosting a reception on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 in the Houston Ballroom at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel, the conference venue. You are guaranteed to have fun, excitement, networking opportunities and inspiration from the people around you. You will meet the ABOHN Award winners: board-certified occupational health nurses who achieved the highest scores on each examination. Meet the company who offers a high level of support to all the occupational health nurses employed there as we honor that company with the 2014 Employer Recognition Award. All of the Board members look forward to welcoming you to the ABOHN reception.

When the board met in January, we celebrated the news that ABOHN was approved for Accreditation by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. Due to extraordinary efforts from ABOHN's staff, Ann Lachat, CEO and Carole Cusack, Managing Director, the NCCA Commissioner

informed us that our COHN-S, COHN and CM examinations have been approved for accreditation until August 31, 2018.

As part of ABOHN's Strategic Plan, we will be more focused on marketing board certification. An example is the Public Relations committee's draft copy of the *Career Guide for Occupational Health Nurses*. This is a wonderful resource to share with colleges and universities that have nursing programs and new nurses entering the field. Several board certified nurses are featured in the Guide and I am sure you will enjoy reading this!

As we plan for the June Board of Directors meeting, we will say a special thank you and farewell to Paula Kerns for her dedicated service. She will leave the board in June. Paula has served as Secretary during her tenure, and has been a wonderful mentor for me when I came onto the board.

I would like to recognize **Ann Lachat, ABOHN's Chief Executive Officer, for twenty years of service** to our organization. Ann continues to inspire, guide and motivate us to yet another level of nursing excellence. Thank you, Ann, from all of the board certified occupational health nurses around the world. You have influenced and enhanced our practice with your dedication to this nursing specialty.

As we continue to focus on evidence-based practice, we invite you to explore our website and come and see us in the AAOHN Exhibit Hall and plan to come to the ABOHN Reception on Wednesday evening. If you haven't registered for the conference, it is not too late. Go directly to the AAOHN website by clicking [www.aaohn.org](http://www.aaohn.org).

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Accredited by the :  
National  
Commission for  
Certifying Agencies



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## ABOHN 2013-2014 Board of Directors

### Chair

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

### Secretary

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

### Treasurer

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

### COHN-S Examination Committee Chair

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

### COHN Examination Committee Chair

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

### DIRECTORS

*Jennylynn Balmer, RN, BSN, MPA, COHN-S/CM*

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

*Denise Knoblauch, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM*

*Paula Kerns, RN, BA, COHN-S/CM*

*Barbara L. McCarthy, RN, MSED, COHN*

*Mark C. Sebastian, RN, BSN, MPH, COHN-S*

### The Three Legal Duties of the Board of Directors

#### **Duty of care:**

Board members are expected to actively participate in organizational planning and decision-making and to make sound and informed judgments.

#### **Duty of loyalty:**

When acting on behalf of the organization, board members must put the interests of the nonprofit before any personal or professional concerns and avoid potential conflicts of interest.

#### **Duty of obedience:**

Board members must ensure that the organization complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and that it remains committed to its established mission.



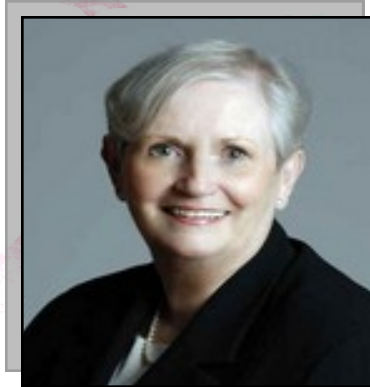
#### **1st row—bottom to top:**

Barbara McCarthy,  
Denise Knoblauch,  
Beth Beaty,  
Eileen Maloney-White,  
Christine Zichello,  
Sara Peterson,  
Paula Kerns,  
Carole Cusack (MD)

#### **2nd row—bottom to top:**

Jennylynn Balmer,  
Peg Manuszak,  
Mark Sebastian,  
Ann Lachat (CEO),  
Roger Brauer

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!!



*Ann Lachat*  
CEO

The Board of Directors and staff congratulate and thank you for your  
20 Years of service to ABOHN!

### January Board Meeting—Savannah, GA., January 2014



Savannah, Georgia

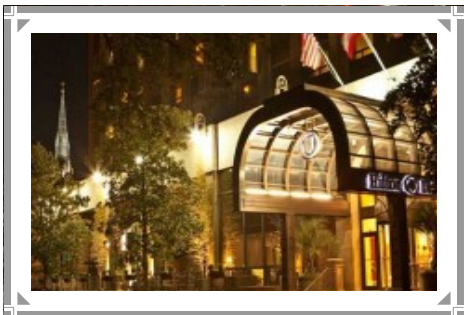
The extreme winter weather even affected our January 2014 board meeting, held in beautiful Savannah, Georgia. It was cold! Good thing that the Board of Directors (BOD) had much work to complete while inside the Hilton Savannah Desoto Hotel.

Reports on individual committee projects during the June 2013—December 2013 timeline were presented and next steps were assigned. We are still on track with our 5 year strategic plan goals :

- Reach more people
- Create strategic partnerships
- Meet/exceed our financial plan, and
- Work across boundaries for global acceptance

The bulk of the three day meeting involved question writing and vetting for updated versions of ABOHN's Certification Self Assessment Tests (CSATs). During these working meetings, the BOD engage in lively discussions around the latest practice news and carefully assess each question's format and rationale. You can be confident that these subject matter experts (SMEs) ensure that all ABOHN's exam materials are directly related to knowledge, skills and abilities of occupational health nurses who practice at the proficient level.

The Public Relations Committee has been particularly busy the last few months. Evidence of accomplishments include the final edits of the new "*Career Guide for Occupational Health Nurses*", which is cur-  
(continued on page12)



Hilton Savannah Desoto



## Credentialing Statistics—Year End

The ABOHN Board of Directors are tasked with many challenges in order to sustain a specialty credentialing program. Table 1 shows the official ABOHN Active, Inactive and Retired certification holders that were in our database system as of 12/31/2013. As the base of our credential holders approach retirement age, we see a slight decline in Active credential holders. Table 2 shows a slight uptick in our applications in 2013 versus 2012. Each year, we find that many nurses who did not recertify were unable to be reached, in part because of incorrect or outdated contact information. The change in our recertification process to include yearly renewal, will help us keep up to date with our credential holders.

CREDENTIAL TYPE	ACTIVE	INACTIVE	RETIRED
COHN	1009	10	25
COHN/CM	246	5	6
COHN/SM	0	0	0
COHN/CM/SM	4	0	0
COHN-S	2853	33	239
COHN-S/CM	686	15	50
COHN-S/SM	5	0	0
COHN-S/CM/SM	7	0	0
<b>Total 12/31/2013</b>	<b>4814</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>320</b>
Total 12/31/2012	4966	71	316

Table 1—Certificant Status by Credential 12/31/2013

### ACTIVE:

Credential holders who have met the criteria to hold certification.

### INACTIVE:

Credential holders who have not met one or more requirements for active status and have opted to take inactive status until they are compliant with the requirements.

### RETIRED:

Credential holders no longer in practice and maintain their retirement status with ABOHN.

## Credentialing Statistics—Pass Rate Percentage

Table 2 (right)

The number of candidates who passed their certification examination declined in 2013, based on the data from 2012. Our updated exams for all three credentials went into effect January 2012.

Applications for ABOHN's Case Management (CM) exam was considerably down at 17 in 2013 as compared to the 32 applications received in 2012.

Exam Session	COHN			COHN-S			CM		
	Candidates	Number Passed	Percentage Passed	Candidates	Number Passed	Percentage Passed	Candidates	Number Passed	Percentage Passed
2009	81	51	63%	113	90	80%	26	12	46%
2010	66	43	65%	97	74	76%	25	19	76%
2011	74	52	70%	113	80	71%	26	21	81%
2012	72	47	69%	107	77	73.6%	32	26	81%
2013	84	49	59%	102	61	59%	17	11	64%

Table 2—Pass Rate Percentage

## Credentialing Statistics—Recertification

Recertification is required to maintain your credential. Every year there are nurses who retire, change jobs into non-occupational health fields and/or ABOHN has lost contact. All of these areas impact the percent of ABOHN credential holders that recertify each year. Table 3, shows ABOHN's recertification data for the past five years. The current fees associated with all ABOHN's tests; application, exam, renewal and recertification can be found in Table 4.

Recertification year	Certificants Due for Recertification	Certificants Achieved Recertified	Percent of Recertification
2009	1373	994	73%
2010	1053	922	87%
2011	1031	728	71%
2012	615	388	64%
2013	1131	783	69%

Table 3: Recertification data 2008-2013

## Application, Renewal and Recertification Fees and Guidelines

	COHN/COHN-S	Case Management	Information
Application Fee	\$150.00	\$150.00	Good for 90 days from the date of approval from the ABOHN office.
Examination Fee	\$400.00	\$250.00	Must be paid within 90 days from the date of the invoice from the ABOHN office and is good for 120 days.*

\* If you fail to schedule an appointment and sit for your examination before the expiration date, your examination authorization will be voided and you will have to pay for another application and examination fee.

Exam Authorization (Extension Fee)	\$50.00	\$50.00	One time, 60 day extension to the original 120 day authorization period.
Yearly Renewal Fee	\$150.00	\$50.00	Renewal payments are required every year before the credential holders' expiration date.
Recertification Fee**	\$150.00	\$50.00	Recertification occurs every 5 years. Paperwork and the yearly renewal fee** required before the credential holders' expiration date.

Table 4—Application, Renewal and Recertification Fees and Guidelines

## ABOHN Achieved NCCA Accreditation through 8/31/2018

Accreditation is the process by which a credentialing or educational program is evaluated against defined standards and is awarded recognition if it is in compliance with those standards. An integral part of the credentials offered by the American Board for Occupational Health Nurses (ABOHN) is the ongoing work needed to achieve and remain accredited through the National Commission For Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

The **Standards** focus on certification programs and are organized into five sections. To earn or maintain accreditation by NCCA, the certification program must meet **ALL** standards and provide evidence of compliance through the submission of required documentation. The statements describing the Standards are numbered consecutively. Accompanying each Standard are **Essential Elements**, which are directly related to the Standard and specify what a certification program must do to fulfill requirements of the Standard. See Table 5 for a breakdown on each section, essential elements and descriptions.

Section	Name	Standards (Essential Elements)	Description
1	Purpose, Governance and Resources	1-5	The purpose of the certification program is to conduct certification activities in a manner that upholds standard for competent practice in a profession, occupation, role or skill.
2	Responsibilities to Stakeholders	6-9	A certification program must establish, publish, apply, and periodically review key certification policies and procedures concerning existing and prospective certificants, such as those for determining eligibility criteria, application for certification, administering assessment instruments, establishing performance domains, appeals, confidentiality, certification statistics, discipline, and compliance with applicable laws.
3	Assessment Instruments	10-18	The certification program must analyze, define, and publish performance domains and tasks related to the purpose of the credential, and the knowledge and/or skill associated with the performance domains and tasks, and use them to develop specifications for the assessment instruments.
4	Recertification	19-20	The certification program must require periodic recertification and establish, publish, apply, and periodically review policies and procedures for recertification.
5	Maintaining Accreditation	21	The certification program must demonstrate continued compliance to maintain accreditation.

Table 5—NCCA Accreditation Section and Standards

## ABOHN Achieved NCCA Accreditation (continued)

The purpose of NCCA accreditation is to provide the public and other stakeholders the means by which to identify certification programs that serve their competency assurance needs. NCCA Standards address the structure and governance of the certifying agency, the characteristics of the certification program, the information required to be available to applicants, certificants, and the public, and the recertification initiatives of the certifying agency.

Just like you, our certified nurses, ABOHN also must renew yearly and apply for accreditation every five years (recertification). ABOHN must meet the rigorous 21 Standards set by the NCCA in order to achieve this distinction. Table 6 show some of the information required by NCCA and the documents listed are not all inclusive in the final report that must be submitted for each separate credential; COHN, COHN-S and CM.

Section	Name	Documentation Required From ABOHN
1	Purpose, Governance and Resources	Vision-Mission-Purpose Statements AAOHN Standards and Competencies Bylaws Articles of Incorporation Policies and Procedures Conflict of Interest - Confidentiality BOD specifications Financial reports Organizational Charts Key Staff and Consultants Resumes
2	Responsibilities to Stakeholders	COHN/COHN-S and CM Handbooks ABOHN Report Questions and Appeals Code of Ethics ABOHN History Online Directory Examples
3	Assessment Instruments	2011 COHN/COHN-s/CM Practice Analysis Final Report COHN/COHN-S/CM Blueprints and Core Curriculum Applied Measurement Professionals (AMP) Checklist Item Writing Guide AMP Exam Equating documentation AMP Quality Control Procedures COHN/COHN-S/CM Passing Point Study COHN/COHN-S/CM Pass-Fail Reports
4	Recertification	Recertification Guidelines
5	Maintaining Accreditation	All of the above

Table 6—NCCA Accreditation Required Documents



American Board for  
Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2013 CLASS OF NEWLY BOARD CERTIFIED**

Please join us in congratulating these occupational health nurses for their accomplishments and for their right to use the COHN, COHN-S and CM credentials which they gained last year by passing very stringent examinations for certification.

### **Certified Occupational Health Nurse (COHN)**

Jill Arendt  
Samuel Asogba  
Dean Berthiaume  
Dana Betts  
Brenda Brawn  
Linda Christiansen  
Andrea Cline  
Susan Cole  
Deborah Cutright  
Julie Davis  
Kelly Dawson  
Ann Marie DeFaria  
Edel Deases  
Brenda Falknor  
Mark Friedland  
Fredrie Gray

Teresa Hancock  
Jane Heffley  
Richard Hershberger  
April Hester  
Carol Hough  
Candace Hunter  
Constance Jimenez  
Tracey Johnson  
Kelvin Jones  
Maria Koziak  
Ann Lance  
Sherel Marlin  
Michelle Marshall  
Holly Martin  
Kyung Matthews

Debra Mehaffey  
Charlene Meredith  
Mary Monk  
Sheila Neece  
Martin Prestwood  
Amy Reichert  
Laurie Schlanze  
Debra Shoemaker  
Beverly Singel  
Sherry Tager  
Jan Tietjen  
Trudy-Ann Walker  
Lisa Wegener  
LaQuita Whitmore-Sisco  
Marianne Young

### **Certified Occupational Health Nurse—Specialist (COHN-S)**

Susan Allaire  
Cassandra Antosz  
Joan Basta  
Dee Bates  
Jennifer Beining  
Jody Burton  
Lucia Chandarlis  
Patricia Dawson  
Susan Deans  
Florence Dyer  
Dena Eckhart  
Erin Farnsworth  
Jennifer Gates  
Kimberly German  
Mary Godwin  
Anne Grab  
Kathryn Harris  
Mark Heffernan  
Kevin Holt  
Debra Hutchinson  
Eden Jackson

Rebecca James  
Deowattie John  
Jennifer Kelleher  
Maynard Lamusao  
Janice Langley  
Kathleen Lehan  
Justine Lello  
Sophia Li  
Tia Lilly  
Steven Link  
Susan Logan  
Barbara Lumbarkoski  
Russell Manney  
Annette Maynard  
Susan McCafferty  
Sarah McGill  
Kathleen McPhaul  
Brenda Montoya Bilbrey  
Ronnie Moore  
Donna Mott  
Cornelius Orr\*

Vincent Pair  
Kate Papadopoulos  
Lori Ream  
Katelyn Reece  
Helen-Mae Reisner  
Julie Rochefort  
Michelle Scali  
Anne Schepers  
Lisa Scherrer  
Sandra Snarr  
Sui Spade  
Marilyn Starrett  
Erika Sweet  
NanceyAnne Tallis  
Bekka Taylor  
Angela Viger  
Ann Warneka  
Angela Weber  
Tina Williams  
Gregory Williams  
Laura Wooding  
Terry Zeigler

### **Case Management (CM)**

Robert Baker  
Cheryl Bracht  
Joanne Ebert  
Virginia Eldridge

Mindy Guillory  
Christine Lewandowski  
Johanna Linnersten

Cornelius Orr\*  
Lindsay Sledge  
David Smith

\* received both Core credential (COHN or COHN-S) and CM Credentials in 2013



## Someone You Should Know—Deborah L. Bohlman, COHN

Hi, my name is Deborah L. Bohlman. I became a registered nurse in 1979 and have performed in different fields ranging from hospital nursing, home care, supervisory home care health, school health, geriatric case manager and currently occupational health nursing. I became certified as a COHN in 2011 and I want to take some time to introduce myself and tell you more about me and where I work. I hope you will enjoy the read. Other credentials I hold are CMC and GCM.

In 2003, I became a case manager for a health group located in a retirement community. The community also had a respite home that I managed when the Executive Director was out of town. I left this position for a case manager position in 2005 at the United States Naval Academy and continued in that position until 2007. I accepted the occupational health nurse position in May 2007.

The United States Naval Academy is a wonderful place to work. It is full of historic buildings and monuments and is home to more than 4,500 Midshipmen. Every employee's mission is to optimize the health and overall well being of the Midshipmen. Our employees support and enrich the lives of those who are attending USNA. "Honor, Courage and Commitment" is the motto for the Navy.

One of the areas where employees work is the MFSD (Midshipmen Food Services Division). Over 200 employees prepare and serve meals for 4,500 hungry Midshipmen at the same time! These employees arrive between 2 and 3 AM to start preparations for breakfast which is served between 6 and 6:30 AM. Lunch preparation starts between 9 and 9:30 AM. Some of the personnel require hearing protection, heat and cold surveillance, forklift driver certification and anyone who handles food requires the Hep A series. We also have many health care workers who require specific immunizations and titers.

The Laundry facility, where the Midshipmen's laundry is washed, is another interesting area. The washing machines can wash 100 to 200 pounds of laundry at a time. After sorting the laundry, huge overhead mechanical arms move the laundry down the line to the appropriate washer. Uniforms are washed, dried, pressed and returned to the owners within 3 to 4 days. Some of the programs workers are enrolled in include noise, heat, cold, ergonomic issues, CDL and MVO operators.

Yard Patrol Operations (YP OPS) is a program unique to the Naval Academy that trains the midshipmen in navigation. A plus to YP OPS is that the training occurs on the scenic Severn River. Both military and civilians work

to maintain the vessels used in this program. These personnel must be monitored for hearing conservation and medical respirator surveillance.

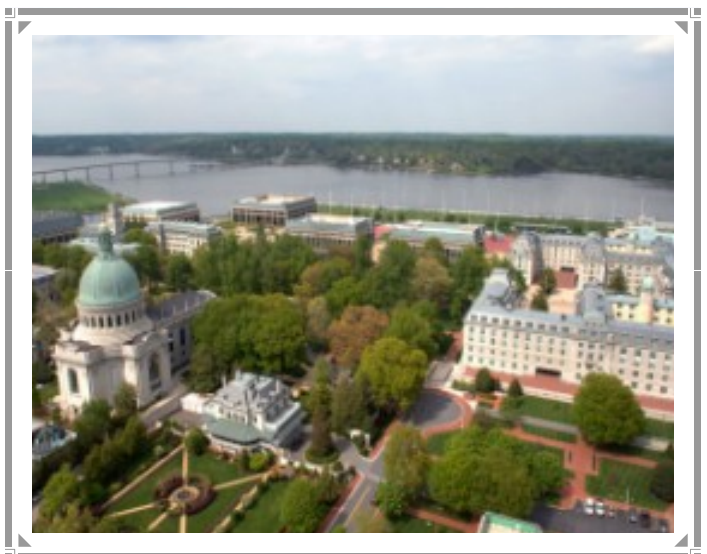
The highlight of summer is Induction Day (I-Day) when freshmen to the Naval Academy are processed into the Academy. The day starts at 5 AM and finishes around 4 PM. That day, we process approximately 1,200 plebes through many different stations including immunizations, blood draws, medical consultations, clothing distribution, and a visit to the barber.

I was asked to speak to the occupational medicine residents at USUHS (Uniformed Services University of Health Services) located in Bethesda, MD about the annual OMPA (Occupational Medicine Program Assessment). The OMPA entails your overall program at a command level on how all the programs that you have employees enrolled in and overall compliance rate. Some of those programs would be noise (HCP), Police, Fire fighter, respirator and others.

In my free time, I enjoy reading, offshore fishing, needlepoint and playing games on the computer. In August of 2011, I caught and released a White Marlin. What a wonderful day that was! I have been married for 30 years. I have 2 sons, both with BS degrees.

I hope you have enjoyed this article and if you ever have the chance to come to the Annapolis area, I highly recommend taking a walking tour of the Naval Academy. You may reach the Naval Academy accessing the following web page:

<http://www.usna.edu/visit.htm>



Aerial view of Annapolis

## Upcoming Events

### Occupational Health Nursing Week April 19-25, 2014



### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING WEEK

OHN Week is a national observance to recognize and celebrate members of the occupational and environmental health nursing profession. It is designated because, while most people understand the function of a nurse in a clinical setting, not everyone is aware that there are approximately 19,000 nurses who work in promoting and protecting the health of workers in the United States and many of these nurses also work globally,

Through case management, coaching and health counseling, health promotion and wellness activities, legal and regulatory compliance, and workplace hazard detection and mitigation, occupational and environmental health nurses improve the health of employees and contribute to a healthy bottom line for businesses.

ABOHN IS PROUD TO SUPPORT ALL OF THE OHN'S WHO ARE  
**"LEADING THE WAY FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY"!**



### AOHC—SAN ANTONIO, TX.

APRIL 27-30, 2014

Attend the 2014 American Occupational Health Conference (AOHC), the annual conference of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) to be held on April 27-30 in San Antonio!



### GET JAZZED WITH AOHP!

SEPTEMBER 10-13, 2014

Start planning now to attend the 2014 AOHP National Conference in New Orleans, September 10-13, 2014.

New Orleans is known for unforgettable dining, intoxicating live music, Old World charm and good time living. And Sheraton New Orleans Hotel is at the heart of it all. Connect with the sights, sounds and flavors, and let the good times roll!

**Upcoming Events (continued)**

# AAOHN 2014 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

## *Occupational Health Nursing Across Borders: Practice, Protection, and Productivity*

*The goals of the 2014 AAOHN National Conference are to...*

- Feature current and cutting-edge best practices in the field of domestic and global occupational, safety, and environmental health nursing.
- Explore the latest technology and resources to improve the management of your occupational and environmental health and safety practice.
- Stimulate dialogue to advance the specialty of occupational, safety, and environmental health nursing.



**Preconference May 3-5      Global Summit May 4-5      National Conference May 5-8**  
 Sheraton Dallas Hotel  
 Dallas, Texas



**Visit ABOHN  
 at the  
 AAOHN National  
 Conference  
 May 6-7, 2014**

**BOOTH  
 409**



## Board (continued from page 3)

rently in production. PR has also implemented a new short survey to help us understand broader areas for marketing our career guide and other projects on the burners. Some of these projects in development include advertising to and educating business leaders in industry about the occupational health nursing field and the positive impact that the OHN brings to the business table.

The Research Committee has been busy soliciting interest in ABOHN credentialing from the many occupational health clinics around the country. Our dedicate committee members use the personal touch

and call the OHN in charge, establishing relationships and fostering interest in ABOHN's credentials.

The BOD has also authorized upgrades to the ABOHN office. A new, user friendly website and a secure proprietary database system are currently under construction and will be rolled out by the end of the year. These needed improvements will help ABOHN deliver accurate information for OHN's, not only on credentialing, but timely pieces of information in the ongoing changes and challenges in the OH field and what they mean to your profession.

## Call for Board of Directors Nominations

Sadly, every year we must say farewell to one or several 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.

**This year, we will require one Director for the ABOHN Board.** Our most pressing need is for an OHN who practices in the Mountain Western region.

If you are interested in serving on ABOHN's Board of Directors, please call the ABOHN office at 1-888-842-2646 .

**THANK YOU!**

### **Board Qualifications (abridged)**

The Board of Directors will represent the interests of occupational health nurses seeking certification, set the criteria for certification and recertification, continually assess the certification process, set policies, and plan for the future.

- Directors shall have a minimum of one year as COHN or a COHN-S and are in "Active Status" with the Corporation at the time of selection
- Directors shall be currently employed in occupational health nursing
- Board members may not serve on a national board of any other professional nursing association during their term on the Board of Directors, without prior approval of the Governing Council.
- The term of office for Directors shall be two years. The maximum number of consecutive terms any director may serve shall be two

**WILL YOU SERVE?**



*The board of directors are local residents who live and breathe in the territory they cover. They all serve on a volunteer basis. They truly are community leaders that care about their territory and having job creation in their territory."*

Andrew Hamilton

## Remember to Check Out the Latest News & Updates Section on the ABOHN Website

The ABOHN website [www.abohn.org](http://www.abohn.org) has a column on the home page containing the latest news and updates of ABOHN activities and pertinent information concerning certification. If you know of any specific information in your state that could impact certification, please let us know.





## ABOHN Staff

 <p><b>Administrative Assistant:</b> Molly Taylor</p>  <p><b>Administrative Assistant: II:</b> Gina Garcia</p>	<p><b><u>ABOHN STAFF</u></b></p> <p><b>Chief Executive Officer</b> <i>Ann M. Lachat, RN, BSN, FAAOHN, COHN-S/CM</i></p> <p><b>Managing Director</b> <i>Carole M. Cusack, MBA</i></p> <p><b>Administrative Assistant</b> <i>Margaret (Molly) Taylor</i></p> <p><b>Administrative Assistant II</b> <i>Georgina (Gina) Garcia</i></p>
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## Recruit a Colleague for Certification

Congratulations to  
**Jill Brown, COHN-S/CM**

of Medgate, Inc., headquartered in Ontario, Canada for winning the 2013 *Recruit A Colleague for Certification* program award. Jill received a \$100.00 check for encouraging her colleague to sit for the exam. Fellow COHNs recruited 79 fellow colleagues to sit for the examinations in 2013.

All Certified Occupational Health Nurses (COHN) and Certified Occupational Health Nurse—Specialists (COHN-S) can recruit a fellow nurse working in occupational health. Prospective candidates can indicate on their application a particular COHN who has recruited them to initiate the process for certification. The ABOHN office keeps track of these individuals and a random drawing is conducted to pick the winner.

## LinkedIn

ABOHN has a thriving LinkedIn group, numbering 792 connections! ***Are you LinkedIN?*** LinkedIn is a great way to keep connected with other OH professionals, get current news and best practice advice and find others that share your passion for the OH field. Find us at [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) and search "ABOHN".

Currently, ABOHN is conducting a short survey (8 questions) on LinkedIn regarding both the OHN's and their employer's entry into the field. Please

take a few minutes and help us by answering these questions. Your answers will help us identify areas where ABOHN should focus strategic resources and marketing attention that can help strengthen the bond between OHNs, their employers and the public's perception of the industry.

If you aren't on LinkedIn, you can still participate. Click on the link below to enter the survey.

["Introduction into Occupational Health Nursing" Survey](http://www.surveymonkey.com) [surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com)

### **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

### **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 nation, 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 the share ABOHN's mission and values

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