

Day Surge Newsletter

DAY SURGERY NURSES ASSOCIATION

Inc N.S.W.



December 2006

ABN 14 909 560 342

Volume 1, Issue 3

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Don't forget the
next education day
is at Hamilton
Day Surgery
Newcastle.
See you there!



Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year



President's Message

Dear Members,

The warmer weather is here, Christmas is approaching faster than many of us would like and most day surgeries will be very busy, especially with the emphasis on proverbial "waiting list" saga. However I hope that you can all look forward to a bit of a break to "recharge the batteries!"

The recent 7th Australasian Day Surgery Conference was a huge success and I have only heard very positive comments from delegates who seemed to get a lot out of the topics presented. Our international speaker Dick de Jong from Amsterdam was very popular as was our final speaker Mark McKeon who kept the audience enthralled throughout his presentation that was very informative and great fun. Trades also were very impressed with the organization and interest in their products. The ones I have since spoken to are looking forward to the 2009 International Congress to be held in Brisbane. The Kinguard hats were also a great success and showed a lot of imagination and craft skills. All had a good time.

The next journal will feature excerpts from various delegate reports for you to read.

The committee were delighted with the response to the recent survey and will discuss the results and plan for the next 12 months according to what you, the members, would like to see in the future direction of DSNA at the next committee meeting. It appears also that there are some out there who would consider coming on to the committee and I would love any who live in the metropolitan area to contact me. There may be some way you could help out without actually attending meetings. This would give you an idea what is involved and would be a gentle way of introduction for the future. We really need volunteers to come forward to enable continuation of the association.

I am including a short summary of the survey results in this Newsletter for you, which will give you an idea of the outcome.

I sincerely hope you and your families have a great Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Celia Leary / President. Email: cdleary@zip.com.au Telephone: 9603 1182



DIARY DATES FOR 2007— PLEASE PUT THESE IN YOUR DIARY NOW.

- **Saturday the 10th of February 2007**
1/2 day education session. **Venue:** Hunter Specialist Medical Centre, Broadmeadow.
Topics to include: An open forum on current day surgery issues, pain management and other **HOT** topics to be confirmed closer to the day. Please contact David Mitchell Ph: 02 4940 0903 to register no later than Monday 5th February 2007.
Note: You may download a flier with map from the website in January.
- **Monday night meeting, the 4th of June 2007**
Venue and topic to be advised.
- **Saturday the 22nd of September 2007**
1/2 day seminar with AGM. Venue and topics to be advised.

SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP SURVEY OCTOBER 2006

123 Surveys sent out with 53 returned completed (42%) – a very good result that shows members are interested in having a say in how the association can answer their educational needs.

The top reason for non-attendance at Monday evening educational events (50.9%) was “work commitments” as some units have an evening shift or lists running late.

It was a close result on cost of conferences with \$100-130 (43%) and \$130-175 (45%). Most common comment – “topics must be attractive and relevant”.

It would appear that most units do contribute some/part financial assistance or study leave for educational events. Obviously some hospitals/units do not support staff attending as much as others. Registration and Travel costs appear to be almost never provided for.

Most popular was to hold a one day conference each year (69.8%) and (37.7%) for two half day sessions.

There was an overwhelming request for “a mixture of sessions with some workshops” (62%)

Sample of comments for topics:

New Trends & Developments, any topic on DSU, current practices, cover a variety of surgical specialties, trouble shooting, benchmarking quality management, unit showcasing, extended stay – 23hr units, competencies to mention just a few.

Attendance at the last conference was 43% - yes and 50.9% - no. Reasons for non-attendance were mainly previous commitments, work constraints, too expensive.

15% of members were prepared to consider becoming a member of the committee.

45% did want competency based educational sessions.

For the last question on membership of another association/group 49% stated that they were. The most common association being OTA followed by GENCA with AONA running 3rd.

General Comments:

There was only one negative comment and all others were very positive so it seems the Day Surgery Nurses Association - NSW and the Australian Day Surgery Nurses Association are answering the educational needs within our specialty.

- We should be affiliated with the OTA, as we seem to do the same job.
- Thanks for your interest in members opinions
- Thanks for the great work you girls do on our behalf
- I really like the meetings I attend
- I also attend GENCA study days
- Would like to see more information/education/conferences in non-metropolitan areas

N.S.W. Day Surgery Nurses - doing a great job in a challenging setting.

