



THE BONUS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2016

A WORD FROM OUR CHAIR

Greetings, colleagues and friends.

Just like year-end reports, the annual BONUS meeting is coming sooner than you think! Will you be in Scottsdale, Arizona, April 20-22, 2016 for "Charting the Stars in Paradise"?

Attendance has increased yearly at this major event, and for good reason. This is an excellent opportunity to do invaluable networking, build professional relationships, and get answers from your peers and industry leaders to your most pressing questions.

Get the details and registration information here. Make sure you use the group code "BON" so you are assured the group rate.

Special Note: In Scottsdale there is also a "Hilton Scottsdale." Lovely as it is, it is NOT the conference hotel. Please be sure you join us at the **Doubletree by Hilton Paradise Valley**.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Delores Armstrong, Chair

HOTEL INFORMATION

Doubletree by Hilton Paradise Valley 5401 N Scottsdale Road Scottsdale, AZ 85250 Phone: 480-947-5400

www.paradisevalley.doubletree.com

The room rate is \$169 single/double.

The cutoff date for reservations at the

group rate is March 21, 2016.



For reservations, call the hotel at 800-498-7396 and request the group rate for AACN - Code: BON. They also have it listed under "Association of Nursing." You may also place your reservation online.

The room block may fill before the deadline, so please make your reservation early. If/when the room block fills, AACN will post a list of alternative hotels on its website.





COMMITTEE UPDATES

Communications: Anne Phillips, University of South Florida

Save-the-Date announcements have been sent monthly. This will be the last newsletter before the conference. Hope to see you all in Scottsdale.

Membership: Allen Edmunds, Georgia Regents University

There is still time, so register now for *Charting the Stars in Paradise*. We look forward to seeing new members and visiting with seasoned colleagues.

Register here.

Nominations: Vanessa Johnson, Alcorn State University

In a presidential election year, what better time is there to consider the future BONUS leaders? The Nominations Committee will put out a call to the membership on **March 9** to fill the following positions:

Special Projects Chair Elect Membership Planning

Who do you know who has vision? A knack for details? Who is engaging and a great promoter of our organization? Who comes to mind when you think, "leadership"?

The deadline will be March 23rd. Start thinking now of what role you or someone you know would like to play.

Planning: Cyndi Cusick, University of Missouri-Kansas City

Busy, busy! Planning is ongoing and the committee is currently securing volunteers for our conference in Scottsdale. We need volunteers for the registration desk, prepping the goodie bags, and other fun activities.

For your own planning:

- > School T-Shirt day is Wednesday, April 20th.
- > Bring plenty of business cards to share.
- > Remember to bring some promotional item from your school to give away.
- > Attire is casual.

Finally, small group dinners, hosted by BONUS members, will be on Thursday evening, April 21st. If you would like to volunteer to host and facilitate conversation, please contact Cyndi Cusick.

Special Projects: Lynn Murphy, University of Alaska Anchorage

Lynn has no report at this time.





OUR BONUS OFFICERS

Delores Armstrong, Chair, Virginia Commonwealth University

Tim Mildren, Chair-Elect, Seattle University

Sylvia Mason, Secretary, Indiana University Kokomo

Susan Perez, Past Chair, University of Texas Health Science Center – Houston

REMINDER TO UPDATE YOUR AACN PROFILE AND PHOTOS

Please visit the AACN website to update your profile and add photos. http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ams/login

A NOTE FROM JENNIFER AHEARN:

A new meeting app will be implemented at this year's conference which will make materials available electronically ahead of time. All conference registrants will receive an email with download instructions. Internet bandwidth will be sufficient to support use of the app by conference attendees.

A comprehensive conference schedule, a registration list, and the voting ballot will be printed for the conference. A separate registration list (emails omitted) will be posted to the app along with speakers' handouts and meeting notes.

BYOD (BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE)!

Posting to social media will be possible during our conference. A big thanks and shout out to **Shane Coelho** (Wichita State University) and **Margaret Hill** (The University of Texas at Austin) who will be our two hip and cool social media champions to remind and inspire you to post, tweet, and pin during the conference.

USE THE LISTSERV

BONUS has a listsery to use for email communications to all members. This convenient tool allows you to communicate with everyone without having to create email distribution groups. You can customize your settings to receive individual emails or a daily digest. Remember to look at the "To" field when responding to make sure your email goes only to the intended recipient or to the whole listsery. For listsery questions, please contact Jennifer Ahearn at jahearn@aacn.nche.edu.

NEXT NEWSLETTER AFTER THE CONFERENCE

We will publish a newsletter each quarter. All committee chairs will provide updates. If you have news or information to share, please contact the appropriate committee chair.