

WSNA/GRAYS HARBOR COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Washington State Nurses Association

LOCAL UNIT NEWSLETTER

July 2005

From the Desk of
Debra (Debi) Brogan, RNC,
BSN, Local Unit Co-Chair



Welcome to the inaugural Washington State Nurse Association (WSNA) GHCH Local Unit newsletter. You will find a list of the Local Unit Officers in this publication. You can also see how to contact them with any questions or concerns you may have. Please take the time to read this newsletter and give us your feedback. Sometimes, we are so busy; we don't take the time to communicate well with our peers. This is an attempt to rectify this situation.

We would like to take the time to introduce the following officers to each of you.

Debra (Debi) Brogan, RNC, BSN, is one of the Local Unit Co-Chairs. She works Obstetrics from 7am-7pm and prefers to be contacted via her pager: 538-3548.

Bobbie Gerard, CCRN is Co-Chair, along with Debi. She works CCU from 7pm-7am, ext: 5365. Please don't call her at home during the day. She is sleeping!! (249-6396)

Kimberly DuBore is Secretary/Treasurer. She works in the Operating Room - ext: 5250.

Claudia Russell is the Grievance Officer. She works Obstetrics 7am-7pm, ext: 5280.

Please give us a call if you have an issue or even just to get to know us better. If we are at work, we may not be able to have a long conversation with you at that time. If you

leave a message for one of us, and you haven't received a response that day, please try again or move on to one of the other Officers. We all work different shifts and days. You may have left a message for us on a day we have just begun a 3-week vacation.

The WSNA Local Unit is made up of all the RNs eligible for collective bargaining. The Officers and Committee Members are all volunteers, **JUST LIKE YOU CAN BE.**

LOCAL UNIT COMMITTEES

The following are some of the committees which have Local Unit RN representation. We are providing you with the names of some of the nurses involved in these



committees. This should give you an idea of who to go to with your questions as they arise.

Nurse Practice Committee (NPC): This committee deals with staffing issues, safe practice issues, communication with management, and discussion of implementation of new policies affecting nurses. Members of this committee attempt to keep abreast of the similar issues

Grays Harbor Community Hospital
Local Unit News



affecting other facilities. They have also provided a copy of the Washington State Nurse Practice Act to current staff and management. Current bargaining unit representatives to this committee include: Debi Brogan, Bobbie Gerard, Kimberly DuBore, Claudia Russell, and Linda Hawks.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF THIS COMMITTEE? Come to the regularly scheduled meeting and voice your desire.

Employee Safety Committee: This committee reviews issues addressing a safe work environment for all hospital employees. Current bargaining unit representatives include: Judy Cain and Debi Brogan.

Reward & Recognition Committee: This committee plans holiday, longevity, and the “Just Because” celebrations. Monica Lindquist-Cain is the bargaining unit representative to this committee. Do you have any celebration ideas? Let Monica know or volunteer to be a member of this committee.

Retirement Committee: This committee continually evaluates the retirement plan provided at GHCH. Ken Wagner and Debi Brogan are on this committee. They aren’t “all knowledgeable” about the retirement plan, but they are there to be the RN voice on this committee. *Does this interest you????*

Recruit & Retain Committee: This committee was developed to look at our ability to recruit and retain exceptional RNs in our facility. Kimberly DuBore and Michelle Peterson are the Local Unit representatives. What brought you to GHCH, what keeps you here, and what could be done to make it even better? Let them know and they will pass on the word.

These are just a few of the committees you could be involved with. Please give a thought about being a Local Unit representative to one of these. We would love to have you involved.

Another way to become involved with the WSNA Local Unit is to come and be heard at our monthly meeting. These meetings are held the 4th Wednesday of each month, except July, August & November. We meet in Conference Room “A” at 1700. The meeting generally lasts for 60-90 minutes. (It depends on the issues of the month.) Come to the meeting, share your thoughts, meet your officers, and maybe even win a prize!!!!

TIDBITS OF INFORMATION

Are you being asked to meet with your Manager/Director? Ask if this is disciplinary or investigatory. You have the right to Union representation. You may want to schedule a meeting time when you can have one of the Local Unit Officers with you. See the beginning of this newsletter to obtain their numbers.

CONTRACT INFORMATION

Know your contract. Keep it where you can find it. Is it your turn for an HC? Make sure you aren’t HC’d out of turn. Per diems & Travelers are always HC’d first (they take turns). If there are no per diems or travelers scheduled, the regularly scheduled full and part time RNs rotate HCs. If you have a question, please ask one of the Officers.



UNIT REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED!!!!!!

Unit Representatives are needed for all units. Become involved; take a few minutes to see what this entails. Some of the duties include: calling people, hanging posters, notification to members and officers of

issues, etc. You are the conduit that helps disperse information to our members. Please think about giving a little time to learn about YOUR LOCAL UNIT of WSNA and what it means to the advancement of all nurses. If we stand together, we can make a BIG difference!!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- July** Summer Break-No Local Unit Meeting
August Summer Break-No Local Unit Meeting
September WSNA Leadership Conference-Lake Chelan-9/25 to 9/27
Local Unit Meeting 9/28 @ 1700, Conference Room "A"
October 26th Local Unit Meeting-(Open nominations for officers)
November No meeting-but think about running for office. Have you put your name on the ballot yet? How about volunteering for a committee or as a unit rep? Give it a thought.
December To be determined. Do you want a Christmas get together? How about adopting a family or organization for Christmas? Give it a thought and we'll discuss it in September and October.
January 25th Local Unit Meeting-(Close nominations for officers)

REMEMBER: LOCAL UNIT MEETINGS ARE HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM "A" @1700, ON THE 4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH (Except July, August and November).



Annual Leadership Development Conference – Lake Chelan, WA September 25-27, 2005

Membership Reminder

It is the responsibility of each nurse to notify the Washington State Nurses Association of any change in work status which may include but are not limited to: **name, address, phone number, FTE increase or decrease, leave of absence, medical leave, maternity leave, leaving or joining a bargaining unit.** This change must be done in writing either by using a *Change of Information Card* or sending an email to wsna@wsna.org.

The Cabinet on Economic and General Welfare (E&GW) policy states, when a nurse is on an unpaid leave of absence, the dues are adjusted to the Reduced Membership Category during the unpaid Leave of Absence period. The accumulated dues payment is to begin within 90 day of return to work. The nurse will have up to twelve months to complete payment of these dues. *It is the responsibility of the nurse to notify WSNA of this change in work status.*

Grays Harbor Community Hospital
Local Unit News

