

local unit Newsletter

WSNA Local Unit SKAGIT VALLEY HOSPITAL

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Local Unit Officers

Julia Weinberg	Co-Chair
John Tweedy	Co-Chair
Vacant	Secretary
Tom Nyland	Treasurer
Lorraine Landstrom	Grievance
Linda Warman	Grievance
Juli Hansen	Membership
Jean Engbrecht	Membership

WSNA Nurse Representative

Kathi Landon
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WSNA Web Site

www.wsna.org

*The Oldest and Largest Union
Representing Registered Nurses in
Washington State*



**WASHINGTON STATE
NURSES ASSOCIATION**

WSNA/SVH Local Unit Officer Steps Down!

The WSNA/SVH Local Unit Executive Team Officer want to extend our appreciation to Jammie Jenkins, RN, for her time and commitment having served in her elected role as Secretary these past three years. Jammie has served our WSNA/SVH Bargaining unit nurse membership and WSNA in her elected position as Secretary, Negotiating team member and Conference Committee member. We want to **THANK-YOU** for having represented our nurse members well during your tenure as one of our WSNA/SVH Local unit officers here at Skagit Valley Hospital.



Open Secretary Position!



Your WSNA/SVH Local Unit Executive Committee is seeking to fill the unexpired term of our Secretary position. If anyone of our nurse members has the desire and ability to take notes, is interested in participating on our WSNA/SVH Local Unit Executive team, helping to represent our nurse membership in the various committees until elections in June 2009, please contact John Tweedy in the OR and/or Julia Weinberg in PACU.

Local Unit Negotiating Team Wins the Washington State Nurses Association, Cabinet on Economic and General Welfare Negotiating Team Award for this year. Congratulations to: John Tweedy, Julia Weinberg, Shelly VanPelt, Linda Warman, Ally Watts, Tom Nyland, Marsha Leigh and Jammie Jenkins. Great job!

Again our many thank-yous are given to all of you on behalf of the nurse members at Skagit Valley Hospital.

Staffing Committee Updates

The Staffing Committee has now met twice since September 1. At their last meeting in October, they agreed to the Charter which describes how this committee is organized. The Charter is located on the WSNA/SVH official bulletin board located in the hall behind the Whidbey Coffee stand at the hospital for your review.

The committee is working on establishing ways in which all staff can be kept updated with communications via the hospital's intranet, at unit meetings, postings on unit bulletin boards, etc... A web page specific for this committee's updates may be a way that nurses can communicate with all of us on the committee. We will keep you posted as updates for communications happen.



Staffing Crisis Intervention Process

Skagit Valley Hospital is selected as one of five hospitals around the state to design and pilot a staffing crisis intervention process for three months. The design and evaluation of how it all goes will be done by the steering committee that put this all together in Seattle. The education and roll out here at SVH is to be in November. Jan Iverson, unit managers, and staffing committee members should be sharing the information of: 1) what the pilot is, and 2) what forms to be filling out. These forms are filled out each

and every time the Collaborative Staffing Intervention (CSI) team is called for. Condition Red Especially. When indeed a nurse triggers the staffing alarm of "RED", these forms need to be filled out for collecting the data and trending purposes. At anytime any staff nurse assigned during shifts on the MPC, OSC and PCU/CCU units will be a part/start for us. These staff will be aided much like the Rapid Response Team does now for patient care/condition changes and needs; this will be the CSI team Collaborative Staffing Intervention team.

When you see this program on your units' meeting agenda, plan to attend and get the information on how to activate this new tool and fill out the forms concerning staffing crisis issues.

The Staffing Committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 10 am to 11:30am. Each staff nurse member on the committee is to report back to those areas for which they are responsible. It is important to each of us that if a survey occurs and staff input is being sought, that nurses support our efforts to gain information as we ask staff participating at the unit level concerning their staffing model needs.

It is the focus of the Staffing Committee to not be unit focused but to look at the staffing unit models in a more global fashion. To look at the data concerning outcome measures as well as staffing alert forms for trends and issues. It will be the unit staff and manager to work on developing your unit model staffing. We know that you know what it is you need on your unit.

We will keep you posted on the monthly meeting minutes on the official WSNA Bulletin Board under Staffing Committee Updates.

Julia Weinberg still has about 20 contracts left that do not have a home yet. Some nurses may still not have received their contract. Please check with MPC Jammie Jenkins, OSC Kaaren Torgeson, PCC/CCU Linda Warman, FBC Lori Skiles & Jeannie Engbrecht, or ER Dave Montequé if you still need a contract. All others should have either received theirs from Julia Weinberg personally or they were deposited in your mail slot at work. If you are still without a contract on CD, please notify Julia Weinberg at 766-6576 or e-mail julia_we@hotmail.com and she will provide you with your copy. Thanks everyone.



**WSNA/SVH LOCAL UNIT
MEETING**

November 18, 2008

AGENDA

**ADO workshop, Staffing Committee
Update and Violence in the Workplace
and Roundtable**

**Time: 8am to 10am
In the San Juan Conf. Room A&B**

And again at

**Time: 3:30pm to 5:30pm
In the Cascade Conf. Room**

**Snacks and drink provided
Plan today to attend one of these meeting
times.**



Updating WSNA/SVH Local Unit E-mail List

If you would like to be notified and kept updated in between newsletters and local unit meetings of current local unit and WSNA/ANA events and hot topics going on, please provide to Julia Weinberg your name and personal home e-mail. She will add your name to our list for the local unit.

Remember you can always go to WSNA.org and then choose Local units and choose Skagit Valley Hospital from the list, for past newsletters, upcoming events, meetings, etc.

Up Coming Events

**2009 Nurse Legislative Day
February 2, 2009**

**WSNA Convention '09
April 29 – May 1, 2009**

**2008-2011 WSNA/SVH Contracts
handed out via the units on CD this
year.**