

April 2008

WSNA Local Unit
WHIDBEY
GENERAL HOSPITAL

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Local Unit Officers

Peggy Schmidt	Co-Chair
Janet Gaston	Secretary/ Treasurer
Kathy Ball	Grievance
Dori Painter	Grievance

WSNA Nurse Representative

Kate Boyle
(206) 575-7979, Ext 3022
kboyle@wsna.org

WSNA Web Site

www.wsna.org

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



**WASHINGTON STATE
NURSES ASSOCIATION**



**From the Desk of
Peggy Schmidt,
Local Unit Chair**

Day in Olympia. Our capital buildings are beautiful and Olympia is a nice, clean city. Legislative Day started out with union leaders and various speakers discussing issues that were being worked on for the current legislative session. These included: safe staffing in each hospital with an emphasis on acuity and staff mix, mandatory overtime with an emphasis on ensuring real meal/rest breaks, nursing education funding and more appropriation for nurse scholarships, repeal of a 72 hour limit of the prescription of controlled drugs by ARNPs, funding for Public Health nursing and of course health care access for all. We then listened to Governor Gregoire speak. She is a wonderful speaker and very supportive of nurses' causes.

After lunch in the atrium of the capitol, we were able to attend a few Committee Meetings. These are informal hearings (rather rushed I might say) on specific issues that are to go to the Senate and/or House for vote. I was amazed so many meetings were about health care (at least 1/2 of each schedule of each meeting room was about specific health care issues). After the committee meetings, we decided to try and meet our representatives. We visited the offices of Barbara Bailey, Norma Smith and Mary Margaret Haugen. They were very personable, knowledgeable and of course well spoken. They were very aware of the issues at hand. Barbara Bailey was especially aware of the closing of the Navy E.R. and we spoke of the impact that has had on our ER.

I encourage anyone who is interested to go to Legislative Day next year. I learned a lot and I am left with the knowledge that my little voice really can be heard.

Our Representatives contact information is as follows:

10th District Legislators

Senator Mary Margaret Haugen
(D) [10th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT](#)

Olympia Office:

305 John A. Cherberg Building
PO Box 40410
Olympia, WA 98504-0410
(360) 786-7618
Fax: (360) 786-1999

E-mail haugen_ma@leg.wa.gov

District Office:

1091 SE Dock St, Ste #4
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Rep. Norma Smith
(R) [10th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT](#)

Olympia Office:

417 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600
(360) 786-7884

E-mail smith.norma@leg.wa.gov

District Office:

22 Front Street NW
Suite C
Coupeville, WA 98239
(360) 678-3604

Rep. Barbara Bailey
(R) [10th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT](#)

Olympia Office:

405 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600
(360) 786-7914

E-mail bailey.barbara@leg.wa.gov

CONTRACT ISSUES

1. Job share guideline language, including splitting of shifts, can be found in the contract at the end as a "Memorandum of Understanding". If you have questions, contact one of your Local Unit Officers of your Nurse Representative, Kate Boyle, at 1-800-231-8482, ext. 3022.
2. If you did not get a break for lunch/dinner, make certain that you write in ink, on your time card, "no dinner, no break" and charge for the time not taken. Remember that you need your rest break, not just for yourself, but also for patient safety.
3. Assignment Despite Objection (ADO) Forms. This form is designed to protect YOU, by documenting your Objection to an assignment that is dangerously heavy, unsafe or inappropriate to your skills. You must notify your shift supervisor as soon as possible after you realize that one or more of the above conditions exist. If the Supervisor is unable or unwilling to reallocate assignments to alleviate

the condition/s, fill out an ADO form and give one to the Supervisor involved ASAP, but not later than the end of the shift. Forms can be found on the WSNA Bulletin Board in the Med/Surg and ER lounges. You **do not need permission** to fill out an ADO form.

We will start working on items for contract negotiations next fall. Start thinking about parts of the contract that you feel need to be changed.

4. When you get your evals, if there is something you do not agree with, you may object in writing and that objection will be retained by the employer with your evaluation. Or, you may also write a note on your actual evaluation form. (Article 13.9)
5. PTO is discussed with administration at every conference committee meeting. Please bring to one of your local unit officers, your individual problems/situations. Next committee meeting is April 24th. The conference committee meets quarterly.
6. If you are meeting with administration or management and you believe that disciplinary action will take place, be sure to take a union representative (one of your Local Unit Officers) with you.

WSNA Local Unit Leadership Conference at Lake Chelan is this coming in September. Your Local Unit will pay expenses for nurses selected to attend this fun and informative conference. This is a great opportunity to get involved in the process of improving conditions for patients, nurses and other hospital staff in the workplace.

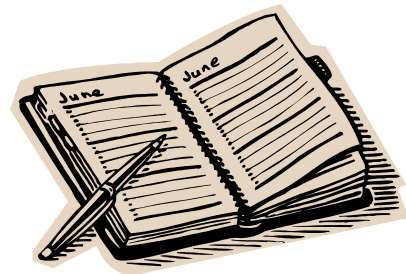
Up Coming Events!

May 6, 2008

**Washington State Nurses Association
Centennial**

**Pride in our past! Confidence in our future!
1908 - 2008**

Save the date! WSNA's Centennial Gala celebration takes place Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at the Seattle Westin Hotel. Registrations Forms are on line at wsna.org.



SAVE THE DATE
***WSNA Local Unit
Leadership Conference
September 28 - 30, 2008
Lake Chelan***