News and Events

WELCOME TO COINN 2011

We are excited about 2011!! In the short month and a half since we heard the bells ring in the New Year, we have already welcomed TWO new neonatal nursing associations to our affiliate member organizations – Holland and Spain!! Our affiliates from India have enjoyed 2 full years of success (read about their accomplishments in the Affiliate Organization section of the newsletter) and we are busy with plans for the 2013 COINN/ICNN conference which will be held in Belfast, Ireland.

ICNN - International Conference for Neonatal Nurses

ICNN 2010 was a GREAT SUCCESS!! Over 500 nurses from 18 countries attended. Special sessions included COINN Day where strategic planning occurred with internationally recognized experts-Drs. Joy Lawn, Stephanie Ferguson, and Margo Pritchard. The key issue is the invisibility of neonatal nurses in neonatal care outcomes. How do we overcome this problem? Another linked issue is that globally we do not know how many neonatal nurses there are nor do we know how many we need. These are important considerations in the next year. Other special sessions focused on the American Academy of Pediatrics’ program “Helping Babies Breath” presented by Dr. George Little. Developmental Care was presented by Dr. Joy Browne and Kaye Spence. Another special topic was Neonatal Resuscitation by Dr. Linda Johnston and Advanced Practice Day was organized by Madge Buus-Frank. The S.T.A.B.L.E. program by Dr. Kris Karlsen.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES and NEW MEMBERS

COINN wouldn’t be here without nurses from around the world expressing their need for an international nursing community like COINN; so we would like to again, sincerely thank each and every one of our Regional Representatives for their continued commitment to COINN.
Our newest members are Michelle Atwood from Texas, Tami Wallace from Ohio, Sarah Coutts from British Columbia, Lori Wyatt from Oklahoma, Sherri Vest from Nebraska, Barbera Herzog Taft from Oregon, Analiza Barte from Illinois, Claudia Viera and Edí Toma from Brazil, Rita Pace-Parascandalo from Malta, Rekha Kashinath Samant from India and Regina Obeng from Ghana.

**New Member Organizations**

A Bienvenida to the Spanish Neonatal Nurses Association. They have a strong organization and hosted a developmental care conference in November, 2010 in Madrid. COINN’s President Kenner presented at the conference and had the opportunity to visit the local NICU.

And a warm wélkäm to the Dutch Neonatal Nursing Association (Innovation & Research Dutch NICU’s). The organization is a group of nursing representatives of all (10) Dutch NICU’s and their activities are initiating, coordinating, sharing and stimulating nursing innovative and research activities in the Netherlands.

Help us welcome them all to COINN!!

**WHAT’S NEW**

**COINN Blog**

One of our directors; Catherine McPherson has worked long and hard to bring us COINN’s first Blog. You can see it on our home page or by using this link: [http://www.coinnblog.com/](http://www.coinnblog.com/). Get involved, leave a comment or question that can start a conversation and help us thank Catherine for her commitment to COINN and for bringing us this blog.

**COINN ONLINE STORE**

**NEW ITEMS!**

- COINN 2011 Calendar
- COINN Membership Pins
- COINN 2010 ICNN Commemorative Coins

**AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION NEWS AND EVENTS**

**Indian Association of Neonatal Nurses**

We are very pleased to announce that in the two short years since the formation of the Indian Association of Neonatal Nurses, they have gotten the association registered & have more than 600 registered life members.

The association has held two annual conferences with very good participation. In addition, they had several master trainer courses held in essential newborn care as well as facility based newborn care. The founding President of the association; Dr. Manju Vatsa was also reelected in the first election which was held in November, 2010.

What huge accomplishments these are – Congratulations on all your hard work!
News From our Affiliates

South African Neonatal Nurses Association

NNASA is growing although we are a still only a toddler. We are taking small baby steps and now have 2 regional branches-Gauteng and the Free State. We welcome 4 new board members to swell our ranks who are providing challenging and stretching new ideas.

The successful hosting of the 7th ICNN gave us the encouragement and challenge to make our association more visible and active in advocating for quality in neonatal nursing care. While the vision and commitment is there we know we need to grow a little stronger first.

As with COINN we have been examining our internal structure and organogram and realized we needed more hands on board. We have therefore included in our structure operational committees to advise and act on education, research and communication/publicity. We have just put out a call for nominations or volunteers for these committees.

We have also put out a call for nominations for our 2011 neonatal excellence award. Following the wonderful launch of the International award at the 7th ICNN last year we are hoping to have many more nominations this year.

We are busy planning our 4th National Conference to be held in October—for the 1st time outside our inaugural province. By taking it to Johannesburg we are hoping to access the large number of neonatal nurses there and attract a good trade response as most of the head offices are located there.

Congratulations to Linda Johnston and the team in Ireland for being awarded the bid to host the 8th ICNN in Belfast in 2013. We wish them all strength, patience, energy, passion, insight, finances and success as they plan for this big undertaking.

Congratulations too to COINN as we grow! Welcome to Brazil and the Dutch Neonatal Nursing Group (Innovation & Research Dutch NICU’s). It is exciting to see COINN gradually standing on its own 2 feet and making our presence felt internationally!”

Membership

Membership continues to be an important part of COINN. Memberships vary from a Unit Membership which is made up of hospitals, clinics and facilities with a range of 1 to 50 beds and 50 plus beds; National Organization Memberships which include national organizations with established members and our Corporate Memberships, all with very affordable levels of membership. We now also offer memberships to Individuals who are not a part of a National Organization.
A Note from Our President

Happy New Year!  Hope 2011 is another great year.  COINN has been working hard this past year in our partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Partnership for Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health to improve the health outcomes of mothers and infants.  According to the MDG goal #4 the under five years of age mortality is most closely linked to the neonatal deaths.  COINN contributed to the Secretary of the United Nations updated MDG work in September.  Then in November, COINN participated in the WHO Partnership’s “Pledges to Action” meeting in New Delhi, India.  This meeting brought together professional organizations, ministries of health, corporations, and non-governmental agencies interested in maternal-child health.  COINN pledged to work across organizations to increase the standard of neonatal nurses’ care globally through advocacy and education.  Thus if we as an organization can raise the standard for neonatal nursing education and care we can improve the MDG goal #4.  We recognize that as an organization we must sometimes put out position statements that are not readily met by countries or areas of the world that are under-resourced.  But if we do not raise the standard and strive for this progress, none will be made.

I am pleased to tell you that COINN is now linked to Time to Care and listed as a cause through Facebook.  This presence has yielded donations that are important to COINN’s viability.  We have joined the electronic, social networking front by adding face book and twitter interfaces.  So please if you believe in making a difference globally, encourage your national organizations to join COINN.  If not become an individual member.  We can and are making a difference with your help!

Respectfully,
Carole Kenner, PhD, RNC-NIC FAAN
President

We wish you Peace, Good Health and Joy in the coming New Year!

COINN ~ The Global Voice of Neonatal Nursing
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