E. Brie Thumm, Clare Sandekian Memorial Scholarship recipient, to speak at FON Annual Membership Meeting

The process of understanding professional psychological well-being of midwives: Doctoral dissertation or root cause analysis

Brie Thumm, PhD(c), CNM, MSN, MBA is PhD student at the University of Colorado College of Nursing studying practice climate and the professional psychological well-being of midwives. She trained as a nurse and a midwife at Yale, starting practice in New York City in 2001. Since then, she has worked in private practice, family planning at Planned Parenthood, sexual assault forensics for the public hospital system in NYC, full-scope midwifery at Denver Health, and mental health researcher at the Denver VA. In 2016 she was awarded the Clare Sandekian Memorial Scholarship by Friends of Nursing. She describes her plans for the meeting presentation as follows.

In this presentation I will unpack the process of studying burnout among midwives. I will start with identifying causes of burnout among related professions, specifically nurses. Next, I will discuss how those findings were adapted to midwifery through concept adaptation. I will then explain the process of developing an instrument to measure the primary causes of burnout. Finally, I will illustrate the hypothesized models of the relationship between antecedents and consequences of midwifery burnout and how the models are tested.
News from our members

A winning bid in the FON silent auction—Brenda Olson

I was very blessed to win the trip to NYC which Greta Pollard so generously donated to the FON Spring Luncheon Silent Auction last April. Greta went out of her way to arrange the dates which worked best for me with the hotel where she owns a beautiful time share apartment. A girlfriend from Florida flew to LaGuardia and I flew from Denver—we arrived within a half hour of each other, and the fun began!

We arrived October 8 and were there until the 14th. We had beautiful weather! We booked a private guide who showed us how to use the subway without getting lost!

I contacted a friend from Denver (he is a friend and neighbor of LaFawn Biddle’s) who also lives in NYC, and he went with us to Tavern on the Green in Central Park for lunch one day. We went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, St. Patrick’s Church, the top of Rockefeller Center, the top of the Empire State Building, and to The Cloisters. If you don’t know what The Cloisters is, you must Google it—very interesting! We saw the Broadway show “Carol King: The Musical.”

We ate at wonderful restaurants and talked to interesting people. By the way, Greta’s wonderful time share included breakfast every morning and Happy Hour with heavy snacks and wine every afternoon from 5-7 p.m.

This was truly a memorable trip, and I’ll forever be grateful to Greta for making it available to Friends of Nursing!

Editor’s note: Judy Robinson and Donna Bernklau seek donations with which they design and construct the Silent Auction for FON special events. Their imaginative and creative selections result in highly competitive bidding by members and guests. It’s fun and is another inviting fundraiser for FON.

Nurses in Leadership Positions

We learned recently of the Gallup Poll survey in December on honesty and ethics in the professions. Nurses were highly rated on these qualities by the American public. In fact nurses received the highest confidence rating over five other health professions and sixteen other occupations. Among groups receiving the lowest ratings for perceived honesty and ethics were advertising practitioners, car sales people and members of Congress. Nurses have topped the list every year, except for 2001 when firefighters received the highest vote of confidence. (Continued on page 4)
Friends of Nursing

36th Annual Spring Luncheon & Scholarship Awards

Saturday, April 8, 2017

The Lakewood Country Club Ballroom

11 AM – 2 PM

Members encouraged to invite friends and professionals to FON special events

One of the time-proven ways to increase interest and membership in FON is for members to invite their friends and other professionals to attend special events. This past year offered prime opportunities for this, such as the Author’s Event in October and the Holiday Party in December. Not to be missed is the annual Spring Luncheon for scholarship awards coming up on April 8 at the Lakewood Country Club. Remember that “friends of nursing” includes many individuals other than nurses, for example professionals from other fields and individuals with special ties to nursing through family members, friends or students.

The Holiday Party on December 18 was a gala event in elegant cozy surroundings with good food, good cheer and good friends. It was an opportune time to introduce new friends to the organization. LaFawn Biddle entertained an old friend and two special guests new to the organization, her neighbor Miriam Farrington, who is a new FON member, and Wayne Connell of the Invisible Disabilities Association. They share several common interests. One is dealing with hearing loss. LaFawn’s family deals with hearing loss, experienced by both daughters and three of her five grandchildren. Miriam’s career included professional experience with hearing loss. Jim Medford is a freelance photographer and a friend of LaFawn’s.

Now is the time, as we make plans to attend the Spring Luncheon on April 8, to think of friends and associates who would enjoy being introduced to Friends of Nursing. We might invite them as our personal guests and consider the expense as part of our donation to the organization. Increasing interest and membership in Friends of Nursing is an easy task for all members to undertake.
Nurses in Leadership Positions (Continued from page 2)

According to ANA president, Pamela F. Cipriano, this trust in nurses can carry over to professionals serving on boards and commissions on the local, state and national levels. She calls on policy makers to include nurses at the health policy decision-making table. ANA positions on healthcare reform include principles of access to care, affordable and equitable care, quality of care and workforce issues.

Karren Kowalski of the Center for Nursing Excellence further encourages nurses to become representatives on boards, executive management teams and other key leadership positions. A national group, Nurses on Boards Coalition coordinates these efforts nationally. Colorado has opportunities for nurses on hospital boards, foundation boards, community non-profit boards and in governor’s appointments to state boards and commissions. The Center for Nursing Excellence offers education to enhance one’s board skills and to get support and advice for appointment to a board.