



GKCC Celebrates 40 Years

In 1972, 13 Chapters were listed in the first Heart & Lung journal issue. By the end of the year there were 35 Chapters. The Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area Chapter (KC Chapter) was chartered on July 1, 1973. 148 members paid \$5.00 to join that year. The Chapter was first listed in the 1973 issue five of the Heart & Lung journal with the Kansas address of the first Chapter President, Bobbi Leeper. The KC Chapter was the first Kansas Chapter and the fifth Missouri Chapter to be organized.

The KC Chapter archives reveal a variety of events sponsored by the Chapter. From special fund raising events, such as basketball games and casino nights, to educational events, such as the annual symposium or the quarterly CEU offerings, the Chapter has been very active in its 40 year existence. Members have volunteered for marathon runs, blood pressure screenings, and CPR education. In 1986 Past President Joanne Ashton developed a tape documenting the history of CCUs in



recognition of the 25th anniversary celebration of Bethany Medical Center's CCU. The CCU at Bethany was recreated for the filming using original nurses and the original old monitors. Joanne won an AACN national media award for this project.

Many educational events are sponsored by the Chapter. A CCRN Review course has been in existence since 1983. In 1984 the Chapter sponsored Dr. Henry Marriott and Mary Conover, RN for a three day arrhythmia seminar. In earlier days Chapter members were highly involved in the area's

first inter-institutional critical care six week course between Research, Bethany, and St. Luke's. Currently the Chapter sponsors a successful 14-hospital Critical Care Course and an Progressive Care Course. Also the Chapter, in the last five years, has won the President's award, Best Educational Offering, and the Outstanding Pioneering Award from national AACN.

The current AACN vision is evident through local action of this Chapter. The strength of the nurses of the past continues to permeate the KC Chapter. The shared events and past experiences continue to push the Chapter to excellence. The continued success of the Chapter will be realized through the strength of talented individuals and the spirit of the group.

There is a planning committee that is organizing 40th year celebration that is tentatively going to be held the Thursday evening of Visions (the last day of February). Stay tuned for more information on the celebration of 40 years.



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Letter From the President



Greater Kansas City Chapter AACN Members:

It's time to celebrate!! This is a great year for the Greater Kansas City Chapter of AACN as it turns 40 years old. We need to be very proud of that fact and celebrate considering that we are one of the largest and most active chapters in the nation, even after 40 years!! Plans are in motion for a special celebration at Visions 2013 to commemorate this special event, so please be watching for future newsletters and emails informing you of the details.

The current President of the National AACN, Kathryn Roberts, launched her new AACN theme, "Dare To," on July 1 of this year as she began her 12-month term as our new leader. Kathryn introduced her theme in Orlando at the 2012 NTI inspiring those of us present to "turn your spark into a flame and risk seeking excellence" in both our professional and personal lives. Roberts continued her explanation by stating, "Dare To" honors our founders' boldness. I hope that it also will motivate, inspire and engage our community. It can validate something we do well. Or shed light on something we could do differently. Or become a catalyst for personal and professional action. Some of our past themes have done that for me."

So how can we as AACN members effectively implement the "Dare To" theme in our own professional and personal lives? Perhaps it means stepping forth and becoming a stronger voice as we advocate for our patients and families. It could also mean daring to become active on a task force or committee at work or through the chapter. For some, perhaps "Dare To" means finally taking that big step and becoming certified in one's area of specialty (CCRN or PCCN). As far as the GKC-AACN Chapter goes, we are hoping that many of you will "Dare To" become more active in AACN at the local and/or national levels. We have many opportunities available this year where we could use volunteers to give us input and assistance, such as in planning and implementing Visions 2013, joining the 40th year Celebration Task Force, or running for a 2013-2014 board position. Please "dare to" take action and contact me if you do have an interest in becoming more involved. I can be reached at 816-932-6722 or kluft@saintlukescollege.edu.

Happy 40th Birthday to us!!
Your interim president,
Kay Luft



Scholarship Updates:



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Next Due Date: January 11, 2013

Visions – 2 day Spring Symposium Scholarship

Cost for AACN members. One awarded.



General Meetings Including CERPS



Be on the lookout for information regarding general membership meetings with free food and CERPs this year.

PROJECT P.H.I.L

GREATER KANSAS CITY CHAPTER OF AACN PRESENTS



Introducing Project P.H.I.L.

Creating a Positive, Hopeful, Healing Environment
Using Laughter
With Kelly Jantz, RN

October 18, 2012

2pm Registration

2:30-4:30pm

St. Joseph Health Center

The purpose of this seminar is to introduce a laughter therapy program and show how laughter can change a nurse's day and improve a patient's hospital experience



To register, please visit our website at www.aacngkcc.org, or click on the register button for secure pay through pay pal

Registration Details

Registration fees are as follows and include light refreshments.

<input type="checkbox"/> Chapter AACN MEMBER	\$22.00
<input type="checkbox"/> National AACN MEMBER	\$32.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	\$42.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Student	\$10.00

PayPal



Upcoming CE Opportunities:

The GKCC of AACN will be providing a **Mechanical Ventilation Waveforms CE** offering presented by **Lynelle Pierce RN, MSN, CCRN**, in January.



On July 12, **Ventricular Assist Device Coordinators** from St. Luke's Hospital of Kansas City will be providing a presentation on **Ventricular Assist Devices**. The program will be held from 5-7pm.

Community Offering:



**Affordable
HEALTH CARE**

Jay Angoff of the Department of Health and Human Services leads a panel of health experts in a discussion about the implementation and effects of the Affordable Care Act.

Monday, October 8, 2012
Reception: **6 p.m.**
Program: **6:30 p.m.**
Plaza Branch, 4801 Main St.



What will the Affordable Care Act mean to the lives, health, and finances of you and your family? How will it be implemented? Jay Angoff, Region VII director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and a panel of health experts discuss the new law. Angoff was Missouri's insurance commissioner from 1993-1998. He was the first director of the Health and Human Services Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight.

Meet the Board Members

President > Kay Luft/ Akiko Kubo

President Elect > Janell Huskey

Secretary > Courtney Hodges

Treasurer > Brad Strecker

Education Chair > Caryl Goodyear-Bruch & Heather Nelson

Education Co-Chair Elects > Stacia Peters & Cher Brownback

Communications Chair > Jennifer McNiel

Communications Chair Elect > Mindy Stites & Amanda Gartner

Membership > Cheryl Rader

Scholarships > Nancy Haynes

Historian > Angelia Foster

