

Year-End Report for ORNANS – Valley Chapter; April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

Our year started by attending the AGM in Halifax. At least 10 Valley members attended this year. Our own Karen Bennett was elected Provincial Treasurer. However regrettably, 8 months into her term Karen had to resign due personal reasons. She plans to stay active at the local level.

In the fall we started with an educational session from nurses Andrea Crooks and Tammy Secord from the Hip and Knee Clinic discussing how the clinic prepares patients for their total joint replacements.

For OR nurses week we had help from our coworkers with posters , treats and some laughs . We were too short staffed to put on any demonstration or educational sessions for the public this year . Shout out to members, Debra Visser who made great posters, and Abbie Morse for cookies, and all the other colleagues who lent a helping hand with promoting our profession.

We would like to say good luck to Shannon Konings and Jill Bruce who moved on to other hospitals in the district . We will miss you both. However, what is a huge loss for us is a major gain for the other OR's . There is a lot of opportunity for changing careers in nursing and our OR is experiencing this first hand . We lost Jessica Gillis to Endoscopy and Andrea Crooks to the Hip and Knee Clinic. We will hold our breath to hope they return to us some day . We also have gained new recruits! Welcome Susie Kocsis , Ashley Cross, Liz Coffill, and Amanda Vaughan.

Our second education session was with ENT surgeon, Dr. Magda Kujath, who spoke on Mastoid surgery .We are starting to perform these surgeries in our OR so it was very informative for all nursing disciplines . We had Day Surgery , PACU and our OR staff attend.

One of our wonderful general surgeons, Dr. Vince O'Malley, is due to retire this spring after years of amazing service. We had an hilarious send off party for him with skits, dance and a roast. As you can tell by his name he is Irish so we had the party on St. Patrick's Day.

Our third educational session was with anesthesiologist, Dr. Michael Fader about Perioperative Allergies and Anaphylactic Reactions. Again we had a great turn out and an in-depth discussion for all nurses who attended.

We continue to encourage ORNAC membership at our business meetings which we hold after each of the education sessions. We are looking forward to having a solid number of OR nurses attend the AGM in Antigonish in June .

So that pretty much sums up the last year of Karen and Theresa's 4 year term as Treasurer/Secretary and RPO .We now welcome Diane Fanning who will take over the RPO position. We have yet to find someone to take over the Treasurer/Secretary post. It has been a great and rewarding experience.

Theresa and Karen