

April 4, 2018

The PADONA officers, board of directors, area presidents and I would like to welcome you to the 30th annual convention. It is our objective to provide three plus days of quality education along with the opportunity to relax and interact with your constituents while enjoying your time at the beautiful Hotel Hershey. This is your time to renew friendships, relax and luxuriate before returning to your busy professional lives. It is our goal to not only provide you with this quality programming, we want you to feel pampered and cared for. If this is your first PADONA convention, we want to meet and exceed your expectations. For those who have been with us other years, it is good to see you again. After the presentation by Candace McMullen and Chris Lucas on Tuesday evening, we are pleased to have the Ice Cream Social being sponsored by Complete Healthcare Resources in the Fountain Lobby beginning at 7 PM.

Sharing with you some of the activities PADONA has been involved in during this past year, one of our major educational programs was our LTC Leadership Development Program. We continued with one four-day course in lieu of two separate courses. This program would not be possible and so successful without Sophie Campbell and Candace McMullen who volunteer their time to teach the course every year. PADONA's sincere thanks to both of them. The location for the program will continue to be rotated. Be sure to watch your emails, as well as our website and e-news for more information as it becomes available in late summer.

Twice last year we conducted our *Needs Assessment* survey to determine your educational requirements, and which venues/timeframes work best. In fact, many of this year's convention speakers were chosen based on the assessment results.

The open position component of our website continues to be one of the most active segments. As a member, you may have posted open positions without a fee for 60 days by sending an email attachment of your job opening in "Word" format to my attention at info@padona.com. Our webmaster, Sue Keogh, compiles the monthly *Website Update* we email to our members. This update is a quick view of all news alerts and website updates posted during the month.

Realizing your time is limited we have been and shall continue sending pertinent news from the Health Department either as an email or as part of our monthly e-news. Also, if you have a Health Department related question, please email me and with the assistance of our State Liaison, Linda Chamberlain, along with the excellent cooperation from Susan Williamson and her staff, we will do our best to secure an answer for you. We will then share your questions and the answers in our monthly e-news.

We are very excited that soon our new Professional Development Specialist will be a part of our team. Keep watching for updates in our news as this team member becomes more involved. If you have any suggestions on how we can help you with your professional development and education please share your ideas with me.

Early in the spring I will be sending out an email about re-organizing PADONA's committees. Please consider volunteering for a committee. We value your input and look forward to your involvement.

In the attendee registration area you may observe all the beautiful gift baskets which have been donated by the officers and board members of PADONA, attendees, and exhibitors. In your nametag holder there are 12 tickets for the gift baskets on display at attendee registration in the Overlook Room. No purchase is necessary to enter to win a basket; however you may make a donation. All winners will be drawn after the last coffee break Thursday afternoon and announced in each program room at the conclusion of the presentation on Thursday. You must be present to win and all winners must pick up their basket by 5:30 PM Thursday. Exhibitor door prizes will be drawn on Friday at 12:30 PM in the Garden Terrace East. Drop off your exhibitor sign-off sheets at the bar in the Garden Terrace Lounge after the morning break on Friday.

Over the years PADONA has enjoyed a flourishing relationship with our exhibitors. We would not be able to offer the quality of this convention or past conventions without their inexhaustible support. To each of them PADONA and I personally say a grateful "thank you." When visiting the exhibitors and having your volunteer door prize sheet initialed please take the time to say thank you. A special note of appreciation goes to Brockie Pharmatech for supplying the Thursday evening martini bar. Brockie has attended every one of our 30 conventions. Our sincere appreciation to PharMerica/Trinity Pharmacy Services for providing the convention bags again this year. They have been loyal supporters for a number of years. Thank you to Columbia Ancillary Services for bringing back the 70s dance party this year – it starts 8:30 Thursday night. Also, appreciation goes again this year to Complete Healthcare Resources for providing the Ice Cream Social.

As you complete the convention evaluation, please share your thoughts on how we may continue to improve along with any suggestions for future speakers. I do read the evaluations and appreciate those of you who offer comments. It is imperative that PADONA has your current email address and that you are able to accept attachments; and if you move or change positions, keep us advised. Failure to provide us with this information will preclude you from receiving PADONA emails, and convention continuing education contact hours.

Thank you again for your continued support to PADONA and enjoy the convention. Remember, PADONA is your professional organization, please share your thoughts and ideas to make it grow and flourish.



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Chair, Board of Directors / Executive Director
PADONA

Pennsylvania Association Directors of Nursing Administration
Long Term Care