



## Letter from the Presidents

*BY AMRITA JACKSON & ASHLEY BURNHAM SMANN CO-PRESIDENTS*

SMANN continues to strive to be an organization driven by its membership. We provide opportunities for learning, networking with professionals throughout the state, and civic involvement. We, generally, hold 4 CE dinners a year sharing the most up to date evidence based practice recommendations by speakers that lead their respective fields. In addition, every spring we bring to you a conference that fills your day with noteworthy presentations by representatives of various professions across the state as well as other parts of the country allowing you to compare best practices from different regions and bring this information to your respective hospitals. Along with CEs earned at the conference, you are able to mingle with vendors showing off their latest products and services that can help advance and elevate the care you provide at your work places. Our next conference will be held March 24-25th at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth. Every year we have fundraisers and accept donations for several local charities, both on the east side and west side of the state. We are excited to do more in this arena in the upcoming year. And lastly, because we need to encourage and support our future NICU nurses, we distribute 4 scholarships to nursing students enrolled in an accredited BSN program that show an interest in pursuing a career in neonatal or maternal/child health upon graduation. We are pleased to announce that 28 strong applicants were in the pool to be considered this year! The scholarship recipients will be presented with their award at the January 2020 CE dinner.

This year we had great representation at the NANN conference in Savannah, GA. There were 15 members that attended and all those that applied for the educational gratuity scholarship received \$250 off their registration fee. Amrita was one of the 12 NANN members who was inducted into the 2019-2020 cohort of Emerging Leaders through a fellowship sponsored by NANN and Synova Associates. We are hopeful her formal training, under a group of distinguished mentors, in this fellowship will enhance qualities to become a stronger leader for SMANN. Join her at the 2020 Synova NICU Leadership Forum in Naples, FL April 19-23 as she will be presenting the change led at her institution.

With the intention of growing our organization, being innovative with the types of events we offer and becoming more involved within our communities, we encourage interested members to increase their participation and volunteer as a committee chair, committee member, or hospital delegate so more voices can be heard and needs can be met. There is more that can be done and SMANN wants to do it!

## **SMANN NEWSLETTER-MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

SMANN currently has 185 members

**Take advantage of your SMANN membership:** Would you like the opportunity to get help covering the cost for obtaining or maintaining your NICU certification? Does going to a conference interest you? Get involved and apply for reimbursement for ongoing education - check out the Educational Gratuities Applications on the SMANN website for more information! Or contact a board member with questions.

## **Know any co-workers that would like to join NANN ?**

NANN continues their group discount

### **Group Membership Discounts for New Members**

NANN offers new member group discounts to make membership even more affordable.

Join with nurses from your unit, community, or peer group from anywhere in North America. **Please note group membership is limited to new members only.**

- **3-9 new members: Save \$10**
- **10+ new members: Save \$20**

**Need help being a part of a group email [smannmembership@gmail.com](mailto:smannmembership@gmail.com) for more information**

## **Make your renewal easier**

### **Multi-year NANN Memberships Available: Save Today**

If you prefer to renew your NANN membership for multiple years at a time and save, NANN can help! Select our 2- or 3-year membership (a \$10 or \$20 savings, respectively) at the time of your renewal or e-mail NANN Member Services at [info@nann.org](mailto:info@nann.org) or call 800.451.3795 to process your multi-year renewal today!

### **NANN Membership Auto-Renewal**

In response to requests for an easy dues renewal program, NANN is offering members the ability to renew their annual membership automatically. This seamless system will save you time, safeguard your information, and eliminate interruptions to your benefits. Learn more about the [auto-renewal option](#).

## SMANN 2019 Community Projects

What an awesome year! SMANN members hit the ground running and donated generously throughout the year.

We began in January with personal items, including toothpaste, soap, lotion, and shower gel, etc. to the women at COTS.

In the month of March, over 73 Easter baskets and goodies were provided for donation at the annual conference in Frankenmuth, Michigan. Christine Adams and her daughter Sarah delivered the donations to COTS.

Ami Jackson delivered donated diapers to deserving non-profit agency in Flint, Michigan.

In August, SMANN participated in the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Dearborn Heights Citywide garage sale. We tended three booths full of books, music CD's, videos, kitchenware, Christmas items, adult and children's clothing and other miscellaneous items. We collected \$400 which was donated to the Camp Michi-mac for children with asthma.

At our September meeting, which was held at the Prime29 restaurant, we collected school supplies which was donated to the first and second graders at Hamilton Elementary School in Rochester, Michigan.

At our annual Holiday party held at Bravos Cuchina Italiano in Livonia, hats, scarves, toys, and games were collected for the children at COTS.

We eagerly look forward to 2020, a new decade when SMANN can show themselves strong through continued community support!!!

Humbly submitted by

Irene Watts, RN

Community Projects Chairperson



## Trivia: New Venue and Time but Still Profitable!

Submitted by: Marie Thomson, SMANN Co-Fundraising

SMANN held their second Trivia Challenge of 2019 at the Tin Cup in Livonia On Sunday October 6th

This time, the new charity that we added in March, Trail's Edge (a camp for ventilator-dependent children) came out in force with 2 large teams to play. This time Camp Michi-Mac (a camp for children with asthma) had fewer players. Fifty-six players registered for the "challenge" over \$1200 was raised to split with the Camps and benefit the children.

Irene and I manned the registration table and sold 50/50 tickets, also giving cookies to all the players. Chris Adams was the photographer and deposited monies after the event. Chris' family joined in the game including newlywed and SMANN member, Sarah. Jeff Suhre had a large team and represented Camp Michi-Mac. My ski club friends and my husband Jim, came in force (total of 16 of us). Jeff (RT from U of M) joined Kim Shaffer and friends to help support SMANN and Trail's Edge. Ami brought her daughters to share in the day (what cuties) There were even some familiar faces from the "trivia circuit"

Besides 50/50, there were many other raffle items. Items were donated by Jan Jan, Georgette

(from my ski club) and me. Tin Cup not only allowed us to hold the event at their venue, they also donated 15% of the sales. Jeff, from Camp Michi-Mac donated a delicious looking cake. Dr. Salazar from Camp Michi-Mac donated 3 baskets for raffle. Tina, Julia and the wait- staff at Tin Cup were responsive to the group. Beth (the owner) made an appearance. I am always amazed by the generosity of the players! The winner of the 50/50(our own Chris Adams) donated back most, of their winnings. My ski club friends came in 2nd only to donate their winnings too as did the 1st place team. Besides the winnings, we had \$170 as random donations from friends to benefit the charities.

Thanks to the SMANN members, family and friends who attended and to Chris for depositing the monies in the bank after the event. With the positive response from the group, I plan to schedule another trivia event in the Winter. Looking forward to another fun event.

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**Thanks again to all who supported this successful event.**





# Tin Cup

Trivia  
Fundraiser

October 6,  
2019





**SMANN**

East side  
Holiday Dinner





# West Side Holiday Dinner









# **National Association of Neonatal Nurses**

State of Michigan  
Chapter

**Join NANN and SMANN today!**

**<http://nann.org/membership/join>**