

## Summary Abstracts Winter 2009 Journal

### President's Message

The President's Message is a standing *Journal* column highlighting current hot topics. In this issue, Executive President Sandra Domeracki Prickett, RN, FNP, COHN-S, recognizes the important work of the AOHP Board of Directors in sustaining AOHP's success over time. She also shares highlights of the Board's recent strategic planning meeting, including a new vision statement and highlights of the next three-year strategic plan.

### Vice President's Update

Gain valuable insight from AOHP Executive Vice President Lynne Karnitz, RN, BSN, MS, COHN-S, in this regular *Journal* column. In this issue, she reflects on the value AOHP brings to its membership, as well as her role and responsibilities as the incoming VP.

### Editor's Column

This standard feature provides commentary from the current *Journal* Editor, Kim Stanchfield, RN, COHN-S. She reminds Employee Health professionals that, among the many responsibilities and demands of this profession, they must accomplish their work with kindness and caring.

### Association Community Liaison Report

Through this regular *Journal* article, MaryAnn Gruden, CRNP, MSN, NP-C, COHN-S/CM, details how AOHP is gaining visibility as an expert regarding occupational health issues. In this issue, she provides an update on the OSHA Alliance, as well as OSHA's final rule on the revised personal protective equipment and hazards training standard. She also includes information from NIOSH regarding the appointment of the first nurse researcher at the National Personal and Protective Technology Laboratory. Other highlighted information features NIOSH recommendations for personal protective equipment for hazardous drugs in the workplace and the organization's guide for establishing programs to sustain and improve worker health.

### Ready to Research

Column Editor MaryAnn Gruden, CRNP, MSN, NP-C, COHN-S/CM, updates members on the outcomes of the "No Fit Test" Respirator Research Conference held November 6, 2008, which provided an opportunity for more than 130 stakeholders to dialogue about the current state of respirator fit testing, what the limitations are and potential future opportunities for respirator use. Goals were: to obtain and exchange information on technologies with the potential of improving the fits of half-mask respirators and full-face respirators; to identify concerns and barriers to commercializing novel concepts for better respirator fit; and to identify research gaps.

### Spotlight on an AOHP Star

The current AOHP Star is the Michigan Chapter, one of the two 2008 winners of the Ann Stinson's President's Award for Association Excellence. Learn how this well-deserving chapter has worked diligently to achieve three significant goals, including: increasing membership by 10 percent; improving

retention of current members; and identifying community service activities to participate in as a group to unite their members.

### **Colleague Connection**

Author Delynn Lamott, RN, MS, COHN-S, Assistant Professor at the University of Saint Francis Nursing Department, shares strategies from the AOHP Board on how chapters can more effectively recruit volunteers and increase member participation. She explains how improving member involvement is vital to increasing chapter viability and providing opportunities to generate new and unique learning strategies. Establishing personal connections and helping members find time to participate are the keys to success.

### **ABOHN News**

The American Board for Occupational Health Nurses, Inc. (ABOHN) recently announced, in cooperation with the American Nurses Credentialing Center's staff, that Occupational/Employee Health Nurses will now be included during the Magnet Recognition Program Appraisal Process for hospital organizations. AOHP is pleased and excited that ABOHN is providing this valuable opportunity for recognition of Occupational/Employee Health Nurses.

### **Integrated Wellness Programs**

Author Kathy Espinoza, MBA, MS, CPE, CIE, a Board Certified Professional Ergonomist, explains the value of integrating efforts among the hospital departments of Benefits, Risk Management, Workers' Compensation and the EAP to develop successful worksite wellness programs focused on injury prevention and post-injury treatment that will increase the odds of developing a healthier workforce.

### **AOHP Membership Survey Results**

AOHP is pleased to release the results of its membership survey and needs assessment, conducted in April 2008. Review these results to see what current AOHP resources are valuable to members and what additional benefits the membership would like to see provided in the future.