The AzLN News

A year in review: AzLN grew from 15 to 56 members in 2014! We were able to offer an all-day workshop with our colleagues, the Arizona Nurses Association and the Arizona Chapter of the Organization of Associate Degree Nurses, featuring Diane Billings EdD, RN, FAAN, ANEF presenting a Certified Nurse Educator Review Course.

Another great accomplishment for 2014 was the achievement of acquiring full affiliate status from the National League for Nurses. It’s taken some wonderful teamwork to make this possible!

The AzLN Board of Directors and Strategic Planning Committee have been working diligently to plan and prepare for the 2015 year. Using the survey of our members, we created a strategic plan that was included in our annual report to the NLN. We continue to work to determine the best direction for this organization and always welcome your thoughts and ideas.

Welcome New and Renewing AzLN Members

Lori Riden
Denise Link
Carol Johnson
Margi Schultz
Nancy Baumhover
Tina Berry
Peg Erdman
Susan Gonda
Barbara Magenheim
Paula McNichols
Mary Boyce
Selina Bliss
Rose Saunders
Rita Haman
Robin Kirschner
Cyndi Holcomb
What is your vision for AzLN? I see the AzLN as the liaison between the National League for Nursing and statewide nurse educators. So many of our educators in Arizona work day-in and day-out not knowing about the larger world of nursing education and the amazing resources and opportunities that are available to them. My vision would be to have every nurse educator in the state to be actively involved in this professional organization. Imagine the network that would create! What are your goals for AzLN that you would like to achieve this year? Improve communication and availability to each member. This newsletter is a great start along with our goal of creating a website. What or who was your influence in becoming a Nursing Leader? Several years ago I went "out on a limb" and applied to become a Health Information Technology Scholar (HITS) with the NLN. To my surprise I was selected and I have to say it, changed my life. For the first time I realized that I COULD achieve things on a national level and was capable of more. My mentors for that program are my heroes; Diane Skiba, Pam Jeffries, Diane Billings, Mary Anne Rizzolo and Helen Connors. What advice would you like to give to aspiring leaders? Push yourself to do things that you don't think you are capable of. You'll be amazed what you can accomplish.
With the start of a new Semester, it is important that we as teachers start out with our best foot forward. As it is said, “the first impression is the best impression.” How can we do that? Arriving early to class and writing the day’s agenda on the board is a good start. Greeting students and having small conversations with students help to break the student – teacher barriers early on. A user friendly syllabus with all the course logistics should be discussed the first day of class. Policies regarding civility in class and academic dishonesty should be clear. Learning contracts can help student take charge and be responsible for their own learning. An academic integrity and classroom incivility contract with the students will assist in helping students make a binding, good faith promise that they will abide by the Academic Integrity rules and regulations. This will also assist to communicate to the students what the consequences of breaking this contract are, well in advance, so that students that decide to break the rules and regulation will not be surprised when facing the consequences of their actions. However, it is important that teachers are consistent with using the contract. Start the class on time. Learn the student’s names. This can be done by taking the attendance aloud, having name tents, having students give their names each time before they speak, and using the students’ names as often as possible are some ways to help the teacher remember the names. And as always remember the golden rules of teaching which are to be well prepared, sincere, and to be creative as well as innovative. So let us put our best foot forward and start the new semester with a bang.

**Useful Links:**

- [www.calm.com](http://www.calm.com)

**Upcoming Workshops and Conferences**

- Concept-Based Learning Institute, Curriculum for the 21st Century...Orlando, FL February 7 – 8, 2015.
- Faculty Development Conference, Success Strategies for New Faculty, Nashville, TN February 12 – 14, 2015.
- National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) 63rd National Convention, Phoenix, AZ April 8 – 12, 2015
- AACN Hot Issues Conference, Las Vegas, NV April 16 – 18, 2015
- Nuts & Bolts Conference for Nurse Educators, Nurse Tim Inc. Minneapolis, MN August 6 – 9, 2015
Talent Corner

Across
1. Understanding the hows and whys of human experience.
2. Predict, Relate, solve.

Down
1. Leadership Style: Do X!
2. Leadership Style: Which is best? X or Y?
3. Scholarship - interdisciplinary grant awards.
4. Apply, demonstrate and use.
5. Describe, Explain, and Summarize.
6. Evaluation completed at the end of a course.
7. Evaluation completed at the end of a clinical experience.

“**The most important practical lesson than can be given to nurses is to teach them what to observe.**”

- Florence Nightingale

Membership News

Annual membership

Are just

$20 per year

Join Today!

Name: _______________________
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Position Title: _______________________

I am interested in participating on a committee:

Yes _____ No _____

Make $20 check payable to:
**Arizona League for Nursing (AzLN)**

Mailing Address:
Arizona League for Nursing (AzLN)
c/o 1473 Eagle Crest Drive
Prescott, Arizona 86301
Attention: Selina Bliss, AzLN Treasurer

Answers to crossword: