

## RN-AIM Annual Assembly and Conference - Brochure

Registration for the Annual Conference is in full swing and the registration form can be found on our website. Go to "Events and Meetings" and click on the link under "Conference" (<http://www.rn-aim.org/docs/2011%20RN-AIM%20Conference%20Brochure%20%207-25-2011.pdf>).

September 2011						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
RN-AIM Annual Conference						

**Unable to attend the entire conference??**

**We urge you to take part in the Assembly, so your voice can be heard and your vote can be cast.**

**RN-AIM Assembly to be held:**

**Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30am**

**Current Bylaws offer the opportunity for you to vote online or by mail, but your vote must be received at least seven days before the Assembly in order to be counted. Ballots include the nominees for the position of Officer and the Bylaws revisions that, if passed, will allow RN-AIM to request Constituent Membership Association status from ANA for Michigan.**

### Posters Selected for Review

The Research and Evidence-Based Practice Council, Chaired by Suzanne Savoy, Faculty at Saginaw Valley State University, and the winner of the Research-based poster in 2010, and the other Council members have selected fourteen posters to be presented at the Annual Conference. The posters will be displayed throughout the two days of the conference, and the winners will be announced at the luncheon on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The topics range from Transitions in Care to Stethoscope cleaning to Swaddling Techniques and Infant Outcomes. Each conference participant who views and rates the posters regarding whether they met their stated objective, will receive one CEU for that process. Total CEUs for a participant attending the entire conference and viewing the posters is 7.0.

There are two categories of posters: Research and Evidence-Based Practice. The winner(s) in each of the two categories will have \$180.00 of membership fees to share toward next year's RN-AIM dues.

### AUCTION!

Items for the silent auction to take place at the Annual Conference are being gathered as I write this. Gail Warner and Liz Galvin are gathering items for the participants to purchase.

Proceeds go to the work of the Councils and other organizational needs throughout the year. Make sure you check out the items being auctioned, put in your bids, and remember that this is a fundraiser and not a place to look for a "deal."

*Bid early and often.*

### Obesity on the Rise

A Washington Post article in late August indicated that based on current trends that by 2030 half of the adults in the United States will be obese unless the government makes changing the food environment a policy priority. The original study is part of an international report in Lancet. [www.lancet.org](http://www.lancet.org).

## ANA News

Just one of the benefits of ANA membership is a daily “Smarterbrief” to keep you informed of what is happening at the national level that is important for the practicing nurse, and also the retirees who continue to serve as resources for their families and communities. This month headlines included:

- how nurse-managed care boosts diabetes control;
- how smoking soon after waking is linked to higher risk of some cancers;
- how seniors are benefitting from health care reform; that soy is not effective is aiding bone density or ease menopausal symptoms;
- that physiological factors make it harder for women to lose weight (most of us had already guessed that);
- that life expectancy increases with 15 minutes of daily exercise and shrinks by 22 minutes with one hour of TV;
- that nurses are on the front line of hospice and palliative care;
- that 17% of oncology nurses in Michigan said their eyes and skin had been exposed to chemotherapy drugs;
- and, that while unintended pregnancy decreased for high-income women by 29% between 1994 and 2006, the rate for low-income women jumped 50%

“Smarterbrief” is a quick read with website references for every headline. As ANA members you will receive this as a benefit.

### Smoking Nurses

One of Region 2’s recent monthly meetings was on smoking cessation, and the question arose about the percentage of nurses who are smokers. Kathy Boynton, the Surveillance and Evaluation Specialist at MDCH, found the results of a survey conducted between 1976 and 2003 that looked at smoking trends and deaths among female nurses.

In 2003, the rate of nurses that smoked was approximately 2%, down from a high of 33.2% in 1976. In the 2007 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFS), while there was no breakout by health professional categories, the smoking rate for health professionals was 18%. Visit the Tobacco Free Nurses website for more information at [www.ana.org](http://www.ana.org).

*Have a safe and happy Labor Day Weekend!!!*

### Child Poverty on the Increase

According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s 2011 *Kids Count* Study, child poverty has increased 18% since 2000 with Louisiana and Mississippi as the worst states for kid’s and teen’s education, economic status, birth and death rates. But Michigan has little to be proud of, ranking 30<sup>th</sup> in the nation for overall child well-being.

In 2009, Michigan ranked 27<sup>th</sup>, so we have lost ground in the past few years regarding how we provide care for the neediest children and adolescents. Jane Zehnder-Merrell, the Michigan author for *the Kids Count Data Book* was quoted as saying that “...while there were bright spots in the reports, it does show with startling clarity how deeply the recession has affected families across Michigan”. Michigan’s best ranking was #13 for teen births with 33 births for every 1,000 teens aged 15-19. The compares with the national average of 41 births per 1,000 teens. Michigan ranked 15<sup>th</sup> for child death rate and 19<sup>th</sup> for teen death rate, with significant improvement in both of those areas since 2000.

## Emergency Nursing Recognized as Specialty Practice

The ANA has announced its formal recognition of emergency nursing as a specialty practice, and define emergency nursing as “the care of individuals across the lifespan with perceived or actual physical or emotional alterations of health that are undiagnosed or require further interventions. Emergency nursing care is episodic, primary; typically short-term and occurs in a variety of settings”.

### Twitter as a Health Tool

Researchers at the University of Iowa collected and analyzed public tweets relating to the 2009 H1N1 flu outbreaks to see if they could track the spread of disease more rapidly than with more conventional methods. The study showed that Twitter could be used to rapidly estimate the scope of the outbreak, and that in theory, public health officials could use tweets to help shape and direct their response to an emerging outbreak, and to gauge public concerns about the H1N1 virus.

### The Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health Announces New Baby Stage Wheels

MI-AIMH has just completed the development of “Baby Stages” social and emotional developmental wheels which detail expected behaviors and skills at each month of the first year of the baby’s life. They are available for purchase through September 15<sup>th</sup> at a special rate for Michigan members, but any Michigan citizen can purchase the wheels for their agency. Visit [www.mi-aimh.org](http://www.mi-aimh.org) today for more information.

### *And the Musing...*

*Instead of the old refrain “Meet me in St. Louie,” the new refrain is “Meet me in Grand Rapids” for an exciting conference filled with the innovations that nursing implements from the bedside to the boardroom and in the public sector as well as the variety of settings that nurses occupy. Nurses are inventive, intelligent and compassionate individuals who are focused on improving patient care quality and safety in the many venues in which they practice. So “Meet me in Grand Rapids” to share nursing at it’s finest.*

*Mary Scoblic, Editor*