



September 2008
Volume 2, Issue 3

NVSHHP NEWS

Mission: The mission of the Nevada Society of Health-System Pharmacists is to advance and support the practice of pharmacy in the health-systems and serve as a collective voice on issues related to medication use and public health.

By the numbers

Current
Membership Total:

Pharmacists: 65

Technicians: 15

Student Pharmacists: 26

Student Techs: 6

Retired Pharmacists: 3

Residents: 3

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NVSHHP First Annual Meeting – Mark Your Calendar

Saturday

October 18th, 2008

Blazing New Trails in Nevada Pharmacy

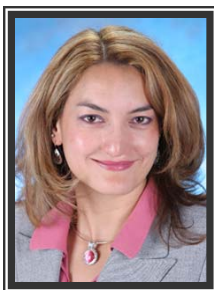
Location: Springs Preserve
Las Vegas, Nevada

- ❖ A great way to kick off Pharmacy Week!
- ❖ 6 hours of ACPE Accredited Continuing Education!
- ❖ Breakfast, Lunch, and Evening Reception included in the registration!
- ❖ Vendor Exhibits!
- ❖ Pharmacists, Technicians and Students are welcome!
- ❖ Tour the beautiful grounds and museums located on the Springs Preserve!

**Join NVSHHP TODAY
for Member Discount on Registration!**

To register online, visit www.regonline.com/nvshpannual
For more information visit www.nvshp.org

Words from the President



Julie Rodgers
NVSHHP President

"What you will be tomorrow depends on the choices you make today." How many times have you had a question arise in your everyday practice and wish you had a colleague to discuss the issue with? Have you recently moved to Nevada and wanted a network of associates? NVSHHP provides a forum of collaboration with those in the pharmacy field. Sharing ideas and discussing concerns are important to an enriched career. Expanding the membership of NVSHHP is critical to maximizing the potential of this organization.

Be a part of history by attending the first annual meeting in October, run for an office, spread the word about NVSHHP, get a coworker to join NVSHHP, take an active role in giving back to the profession and you will find it very rewarding. My heartfelt thanks go out to all the board and committee members that have worked overtime to organize the annual meeting. I'm confident that it will exceed our expectations.

Sincerely,

Julie

We welcome your questions, comments or corrections!

Please contact:
Secretary, NVSHHP
Diana Quach, Pharm.D.
diana.spiro@gmail.com

NVSHP Prepares for First Annual Meeting: Update from Education Committee

Please join us as we begin "Blazing New Trails in Nevada Pharmacy" with our inaugural NVHSP annual meeting on October 18th at the beautiful Springs Preserve in Las Vegas. The Springs Preserve is a 180-acre non-gaming cultural and historical attraction. The Springs Preserve experience includes colorful desert botanical gardens, museum galleries, gift shop, outdoor concerts and events, an indoor theater, a historic photo gallery and a series of walking trails that meander through a scenic wetland habitat (Springs Preserve©). For more information please visit the following website www.springspreserve.org

The NVSHP annual program will include breakfast, lunch, a NVSHP town hall meeting and evening reception, exhibitor booths and up to 9 hours of ACPE programming to choose from including:

1. *Performance Measurement and Information Technology: The Pharmacist Perspective*

2. *Improving Quality of Anti-thrombotic Therapy through the Use of National Performance Measures*

3. *Patient Safety*

4. *Immunization Update: 2009*

5. *HIV Therapeutic Update: A focus on new agents and pre-therapy testing recommendations*

6. *The Relationship of e--Prescribing to the Electronic Health Record*

7. *Medication Reconciliation: The core of continuity of care in medication management*

Registration and breakfast begins at 8AM. Registration is open to pharmacists, pharmacy residents and fellows, students and technicians.

The Key Note Presentation will be given by Jannet Carmichael, Pharm.D., BCPS, FCCP, past ASHP president.

There is an option to bring your significant other or friend to an evening reception after enjoying a day at the Springs Preserve for an attractive package fee as outlined on the website.

Early bird registration is until September 18th. Registration will close on October 10th and there will be no on-site registration.

Please join the NVSHP, together we can make a genuine difference in Nevada pharmacy and establish ourselves as a leader in the local and national healthcare community.

For more information and to register, please visit our website at www.regonline.com/nvshp/annual

**BE THERE on
October 18, 2008!**

**Annual Meeting Early
bird registration is
until September 18th.**

**Registration Deadline
is October 10th.**

Upcoming Important Dates and Tips for the Annual Meeting

To help make this a very successful NVSHP Annual Meeting, NVSHP is asking its members to assist in any way they can. The following are some tips on how members can help make this a successful meeting:

1) Promote the meeting! Consider posting information on your pharmacy bulletin board, sending an e-mail reminder to staff, or just telling a colleague about the meeting.

2) Register early! Not only is online registration quick and easy, it will also be easier on your wallet if you register before September 18th (when early bird registration is complete).

3) Remember that all registration ends on October 10th.

4) If you know of a company or if your health-system pharmacy is interested in sponsoring an event or advertising in the program, contact nvshpinfo@gmail.com as soon as possible. In addition, if you are interested in posting employment opportunities, be sure to contact NVSHP as well.

5) Tell your Director! NVSHP is flourishing and will continue to need the support of the health-system community to continue to thrive.

6) Consider volunteering for a NVSHP Committee. NVSHP is a non-profit organization run solely on volunteers. For more information, e-mail NVSHP President, Julie Rodgers, at (Julie.rodgers@va.gov).

7) While at the meeting, don't forget to bring business cards! The NVSHP Annual Meeting is a great way to reconnect with former colleagues and to form new contacts. Network, network, network!

8) Check e-mail periodically for updates on the Meeting. Although NVSHP doesn't anticipate major changes, information about the meeting may need to be sent to you. If you are currently not on the NVSHP e-mail list and would like to be added, e-mail your contact information to: nvshpinfo@gmail.com

NVSHP sincerely hopes to see Nevada's pharmacists, residents, students, and technicians enjoying themselves at the meeting. See you there!



(Left) Christina Madison, NVSHP Education Committee Co-Chair, presents a poster at AACCP (picture taken by Allison Anne Welder, Ph.D.)

USN Continuing Education in Nevada Pharmacy Law

Speaker: **Ron Shockey, RPh., Inspector, Nevada Board of Pharmacy**

Programs are held from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Registration and light refreshments beginning at 6:30 p.m. for our September 17, 2008 program. *NEW THIS YEAR: We are offering one live program via teleconference.* Space is limited, so please register no later than Monday, October 13 for the teleconference. USN will also be providing preceptor orientation to any pharmacists who will be

precepting P1 and/or P2 students this upcoming academic year. There is no charge for orientation if you do not attend Nevada Pharmacy Law, however no continuing education credit will be available for preceptor orientation.

This is a one-hour program providing an update on important changes in pharmacy law pertinent to those practicing in Nevada. Most programs are held on the third Wednesday of the month.

Current upcoming program dates:

- September 17, 2008
- October 15, 2008 (Teleconference)

Online registration system: Pay with credit card by visiting www.regonline.com/usnpharmlaw for either program, or you may download the registration form from: <http://www.usn.edu/continuing-education> and mail it with payment. For questions, email [LaToya Conners](mailto:LaToya.Conners@usn.edu), lconners@usn.edu, or phone her at 702-968-2086.



NVSHP encourages visiting the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy Website for legal updates – www.nvbop.gov

Pharmacy Student Corner – Personal Student Reflection on Rotations

By Anonymous – Third Year USN Student

I remember how anxious I was the very first day of pharmacy rotations. Sure, I had passed all of my assessments in P2 year, but I was still afraid of failing. All my knowledge was out the window! My preceptor assured me that all was as it should be: if I knew everything, then I didn't need to be on rotations. Since I was on rotations, then I had learned lots of things in the classroom, and I was there to learn how to apply my knowledge to real, live people.

It's been 12 weeks since that day, and I've completed rotations in Institutional Pharmacy and Adult Acute Care. My experience helped me extend empathy to stressed medical residents when they started their rotations July 1st. My experience also gave me the assurance to give therapeutic recommendations to the doctors. And they were so happy to receive them!

Speaking of real, live people, my patients are feisty! A few groused about how many medications they are taking (not necessarily prescribed), and I seized the opportunity to talk to them about their diet and lifestyle, and what they are willing to change to be healthier.

I went into the room of one patient to discharge him, and he snapped, "What do you want?!" I replied, "To get your butt out of here!" He laughed.

Another patient showed me a card his daughter sent him. The front of the card said, "As you are recovering in the hospital, you'll be glad to know your doctor is using the latest technology." Inside, it says: "Her huge flat-screen plasma TV is hung perfectly in her living room." He was very proud of that card.

I had a patient who initially seemed to be difficult because he was refusing his meds. I talked him into taking a couple since he was deficient in them and we were watching his serum levels closely. He was worried about doubling up on both the chewable and oral phosphate binder and he preferred the chewable one. He said the team agreed to not giving him a beta-blocker on the days he receives dialysis because his blood pressure would drop too low. Because I sat down and spent about 15 minutes with this patient, I also found out that he was feeling grumpy because he was about to have his foot (and perhaps his leg) amputated due to infection. I brought him a treat (diet soda).

It's been a whirlwind three months! I've rounded with doctors in ICU and the medical floor. I've hounded the technicians with questions in the IV room and about unit-dosing. I've sat in on conferences where

I have very little understanding, and I've researched clinical trials and guidelines.

My friends and family are amazed at what I'm doing (they envision me handing out drugs at the outpatient window)—for them, as it is for us and our patients, the education continues.

National Hospital and Health-System Pharmacy Week – October 19th – 25th , 2008

As you make plans to celebrate National Hospital and Health-System Pharmacy Week, October 19-25, remember that ASHP provides materials that you may use to make the celebration work better in your organization.

ASHP's Public Relations Staff are also available to help support your institution's plans for a community outreach activity like a brown bag event or health fair.

Check out the resource center at www.ashp.org/pharmweek or by email at publicinfo@ashp.org for the resources to make your Pharmacy Week activity a memorable event.

Beverly Black
ASHP Affiliate Relations Division

Tips for a Successful Health-System Pharmacy Week

- 1) **Get organized – visit the ASHP website for quick tips and resources on how to celebrate the week**
- 2) **Get other health-system colleagues involved. Show how much the pharmacy department impacts other areas of the health-system continuum**
- 3) **Plan a Community service activity. Visit a local elementary school or senior center to discuss the benefits of safe pharmacy practice**
- 4) **Share ideas with your local NVSHP chapter so other health-system pharmacies can benefit from your successes!**

Congratulations to ASCP's New Officers!



NVSHP Members Getting Involved:
Shelly Spiro (left) & Debbie Bieber (right)

NVSHP is proud to recognize two pharmacists that have been elected into national positions with the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP).

Debbie Bieber has been elected as ASCP's Region V Board Director. Debbie is

currently NVSHP's Director at Large for Legislation. She is also a past Secretary of the Nevada Pharmacy Alliance.

Shelly Spiro has been elected as ASCP's President-Elect 2008-2009. Shelly's Presidential term will be 2009-2010. She is currently

chair of NVSHP's Legislative Committee and is a former Nevada Pharmacist of the Year. She is also Past President of NSHP in 1993. Congratulations to these two for their tremendous achievements!

NVSHP Welcomes Our New Members!

NVSHP would like to welcome our most recent members!

Kim Ballow
Michelle Manley
Shailender Verma

Mindy Hsu
Tara Thuy Mui
Erica Zelickowksi

Pamela Lee
Bavika Patel

Have Ideas for Pharmacy Week?

Email nvshpinfo@gmail.com and let us know how your pharmacy celebrates!

NVSHP Call for Nominations 2008-2009!

NVSHP needs your leadership skills! If you are interested in running for an officer or director, or know someone who would ?

Interested in chairing a committee? Editing the newsletter? Nominations forms are available at www.nvshp.com.

Don't forget to fill out the nominations form and return it to Katie Craven at khc@att.net no later than 10/13/08!

NVSHP Legislative Committee – Current Affairs

The NVSHP Legislative Committee is actively seeking more volunteers. Time commitment will vary, but will mostly include monthly conference calls. Representatives from the North and South are encouraged. For more information, please email interest to Julie Rodgers (Julie.Rodgers@va.gov).

See below for highlights of the Legislative Committee efforts over the last quarter:

Board of Pharmacy Meetings

- July 16-17th in Las Vegas
 - NVSHP participation included Katie Craven, Christina Madison and Shelly Spiro.
 - Pharmacists Practicing Outside a Pharmacy, updated Compounding regulations and Ambulatory Surgery Centers regulations have all been finalized by the Board. The regulations will be reviewed and potentially approved by the Legislative Council Bureau September 17th. If approved, all three regulations will go into effect September 18th.
- August (no meeting)
- September 3-4th in Reno

ASHP State Legislative Conference Calls

- Recent governmental affairs issues include:
 - 06/25/08 ASHP comments on the proposed NIOSH survey of healthcare workers' safety and health. ASHP's concern is that the complexity and length of the survey may limit participation; recommendations were to have participants complete the survey in stages to alleviate time-constraint burdens and to increase participation. Many other recommendations were provided on specific questions as well as to outline comprehensive definitions on terms, especially "hazardous drug" and "antineoplastic".
 - 07/03/08 ASHP comments on proposed resolution regarding transparency for patients in prescription drug care. ASHP requests clarification that this resolution is not intended to apply to hospital and health-care settings.
 - 07/07/08 ASHP comments on the FDA's Pilot Program to Evaluate Proposed Name Submissions concept paper. ASHP recommends that FDA specifically include other individuals in the example of a product prescribed by private practice oncologists be named, such as nurses working in private practices or others who might call in a prescription.
 - 07/23/08 ASHP requests clarification from CMS on interpretive guidelines sent to state surveyors regarding regulatory changes amending Hospital Conditions of Participation pertaining to requirements of history and physical examinations; authentication of verbal orders; securing medications; and post-anesthesia evaluations. Clarification seeking from CMS includes:
 - ❖ Orders for drugs and biological must be documented and signed by an authorized practitioner who is responsible for the care of the patient. The authorized practitioner may sign the patient's chart following the initiation of a protocol or standing order that has already been approved by the P&T Committee.
 - ❖ Therapeutic interchange of various drug products by pharmacists under arrangements where pharmacists and authorized prescribers interrelate on behalf of patient care is permitted when a hospital authorizes therapeutic interchange without a physician's order.
 - ASHP's Government Affairs Division has published another in the series on the value of clinical pharmacists: "Clinical Pharmacists Reduced, Avoided Expenditures". Abstract on the link: www.ashp.org/s_ashp/docs/files/advocacy/policy_alert/Economic_Effects_7_28_08.pdf

Law Continuing Education Seminars

- Being planned for late fall, after the October 18th Annual Meeting, in the North and South
- Sessions will include the updated compounding regulations, more specific to health-systems; dates to be announced.



P.O. Box 27371
Las Vegas, Nevada 89125

E-MAIL:
nvshpinfo@gmail.com

NVSHP Board Members

President: Julie Rodgers
(julie.rodgers@va.gov)

President-Elect: Kathryn Craven
(KHC@att.net)

Secretary - Diana Quach
(diana.spiro@gmail.com)

Treasurer - Caryn Bing
(cbing@criticalcaresystems.com)

Director-at-Large (Education):
Tracie Balvanz
(tracie.balvanz2@va.gov)

Director-at-Large (Legislative):
Debbie Bieber
(debbiebieber19@msn.com)

Director-at-Large (Membership):
Jeffrey Rosenblatt
(jrosenblatt@usn.edu)

Technician Representative:
Joanie MacIntosh
(jmacbank@yahoo.com)

Student Representative:
Wendy Nissen
(wnissen@student.usn.edu)

www.nvshp.org

Website Update: Online CE offered to members

It's here!! – Free on-line CE for NVSHP members!! You should have received an e-mail from HealthSystemCE with your login. HealthSystemCE is partners with several other state pharmacy associations and NVSHP is pleased to be a part of the network.

Be sure to visit www.nvshp.org for the latest information.



→Reminder, be sure to renew your membership...

NVSHP members, it's time for your annual NVSHP membership dues!

You have several options for processing your membership renewal at your earliest convenience.

You can easily update your membership information and pay using PayPal by going to www.nvshp.org and selecting Renew!

You may also update your information on the website, www.nvshp.org, and remit payment with a check by mail.

You may also send a copy of the invoice that was emailed to you and send payment by check through the mail.

Please feel free to email us at nvshpinfo@gmail.com, if you have any questions or comments.



PO Box 27371
Las Vegas, NV 89126

Mission: *The mission of the Nevada Society of Health-System Pharmacists is to advance and support the practice of pharmacy in the health-systems and serve as a collective voice on issues related to medication use and public health.*



NVSHP 2008-2009 Board of Directors Nomination Form

Please complete the form and return to Katie Craven (khc@att.net) no later than **Monday, October 13th, 2008.**

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Phone Number: _____

Nominee E-mail: _____

Name of Person Completing Form (optional): _____

The following offices are open for the 2008-2009 year (please check all interested):

President-Elect (1 yr term)

Treasurer (2 yr term)

Director-at-Large (2 yr term)

Student Representative (1 yr term)

Chairperson – Education (1 yr term)

Chairperson – Membership (1 yr term)

Chairperson – Legislative (1 yr term)

Please list further information about the nominee (eg. activities, service) for the Awards and Nominations Committee to consider (may use another sheet if necessary):
