



RONs

REGIONAL ONCOLOGY NURSING

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mary Maxwell, former board member of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) will present the advantages of becoming a local chapter of the ONS at our April 15th Spring Meeting.

In preparation for that meeting, here is the background of the discussions RONS has had over the past several years about becoming a local chapter of ONS.

In January 1981 at our Third Annual Meeting, a committee was formed to look at ONS chapter formation. Julie Pearson, Liz White, Ann Oakley, Ann McElroy, Karen Landenburger and Patty Mulhern agreed to investigate the ramifications of ONS chapter formation. This committee was also charged with outlining the major issues involved in RONS' pursuing a national boycott of those ONS meetings scheduled to be held in states which had not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment. At that time a number of our members were opposed to the scheduling of the 1982 ONS annual meeting in St. Louis Missouri, a state which had not ratified the ERA.

RONs Fight for the ERA

Attempts had been made at the 1979 and 1980 ONS annual business meetings by RONS members to address this concern, and to have the 1982 meeting moved to a state which had ratified the ERA. These attempts had met with failure.

In response to our frustration, a motion was made at the RONS Fourth annual meeting not to seek ONS chapter status. This motion was carried, despite an earlier mail vote.

A previous mail ballot of the RONS membership had split closely on the issue of ONS chapter formation--with a slight majority favoring becoming an ONS chapter. (125 ballots mailed; 73 returned valid; 32 for; 31 against).

RONs next step was to offer its members two choices: either boycott the St. Louis meeting, or attend and support a RONS resolution urging that no further meetings be held in non-ERA ratified states.

That resolution was indeed passed at the St. Louis 1982 meeting. At this time, approximately one-third to one-half of all RONS members belong to ONS as individual members. It seems that it is again time to explore the benefits of local ONS chapter status. This will be the main agenda item of our April 15 meeting. Please plan to attend.

Judy Kornell, RN

The American Cancer Society, Washington Division has printed the proceedings of the RONS 1983 Symposium. They will be mailed to all RONS members.

QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

The following is an abbreviated version of the secretary's minutes of the meeting held January 21, 1983, in Seattle, during the Annual Symposium.

President's report by Judy Kornell: RONS functioned independently of the FHCRC this year financially. New sources for supplemental funds will be explored this spring, including the American Cancer Society. During this year, nurses from local hospitals came together to identify and discuss common concerns; from this, the Ad Hoc Hickman Catheter Care Committee was formed. A second concern was discharge planning and interagency communication. The nursing interest group met with discharge planners from local hospitals. The interest group participated in 1983 Symposium planning and will continue to meet in the coming year.

Treasurer's report by Ann Reiner: the current treasury balance is \$2900.44.

Program Committee by Ryan Iwamoto: the past year's program topics were reviewed; the membership seems satisfied with continuing quarterly meetings in Seattle. Mona Epp was welcomed as the new committee chairperson.

Newsletter report by Kit Bakke and Judy Moore. As previous funding of the newsletter has been discontinued, less expensive printing sources are being sought. In addition, the possibility of instituting a subscription fee for non-members was discussed. Members were again encouraged to submit articles for publication.

Annual Symposium planning by Ann Oakley: there were 101 registrants for this symposium, about 20 less than last

(cont. on p. 3)

**** NEXT RONS MEETING ****

Spring Quarterly Meeting

April 15, 1983
7:00 PM

Virginia Mason Hospital
9th Ave. & Seneca
Seattle, WA
Auditorium A

Program: "Should RONS Become
a Regional Chapter of ONS?"