

NORTHWEST UNIT NEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As we wrap up 2011, I wanted to reflect back on the great year we have had and thank those whose work has been instrumental in making it successful. Dianne Presley's e-mail's have kept us all "in the know." I most appreciate the timeliness and informative nature of her posts. Erica Mack has pulled our Facebook page back together and has offered us another forum for sharing information and staying connected. Courtney Cook has done a wonderful job as CONLI Chair; we have had a record number of voters for our recent elections and awards. Patricia Parker, our Legislative/PACE Chair has kept us up-to-date on legislative matters, and will once again be representing us at Lobby Day. Lauren Anzaldo (now an LCSW!), CE Chair, has coordinated a number of excellent CE events, making it easy to get the training we need. Deb Rougas has stepped up to spearhead a new initiative for us, the Engagement Committee to promote/celebrate the involvement of members in NASW. Teri Perkins has worked hard to engage and educate the students in our area to NASW; the increase in our student memberships and involvement in activities is a testament to her efforts. Dr. Diane Scott with UWF, has also been a wonderful liaison with NASW and the university. Marcy Moreland has spearheaded our new Clinical Conversations and has worked diligently to get it established. Jennifer Steinmeier and Robin May in Fort Walton Beach have been vital to keeping the Sub-Unit going forward. Obviously, I will have forgotten a name—it is no reflection on their efforts, but a reflection on my memory. One of the benefits of being a Unit Chair is interacting with such wonderful people!

Beginning in January, Courtney Cook will be asking for nominations/volunteers to take positions of leadership in our Unit. We have several positions coming open—Unit Chair and CE Chair specifically. I do hope you will consider stepping up to one of these. Please give me a call if you want specifics of how wonderful and exciting being the Chair has been.

If you do not chose to take a formal position, be open to working with specific events. For example, the annual luncheon is coming up—always a great time for volunteers!

UPCOMING CE EVENT

"Legal Issues that Mental Health Professionals Face: Preparing Yourself for the Courtroom" with Laura Sterling, LCSW, Esq. Tuesday, January 17, 2012, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. This workshop meets requirements for ethics for licensure renewal.

Location: Pensacola State College, McMillan Auditorium, Bldg. 3700, 2nd Floor, Room 3730. 5555 Hwy 98 West, Pensacola, FL 32507

Register with NASW-FL at 1-800-352-6279. \$30 NASW members; \$45 Non-Members; \$25 Students/Unlicensed Professionals.

CALENDAR 2011–2012

- Jan 6 First Friday Meeting 7:30 a.m. 9 Mile Road, Village Inn.
- Jan 11 Fort Walton Beach Luncheon Meeting, Coach `n Four, Turner Blvd.. 11:15 a.m. *Please note new time, date and location for monthly FWB meetings.
- Jan 17 CE Workshop: "Legal Issues that Mental Health Professionals Face" with Laura Sterling, LCSW, Esq. Pensacola, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
- Jan 19 Steering Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Location to be announced
- Feb 3 First Friday Meeting Pensacola, Village Inn, 9 Mile Road. 7:30–8:30 a.m.
- Feb 8 Fort Walton Beach luncheon meeting, Coach `n Four, Turner Blvd.. 11:15 a.m.
- Feb 16 Clinical Conversation, Tryon Public Library, Langley Ave, Pensacola. 5:30–8:00 p.m.