

APIC Membership Information

Chapter 64 Greater Omaha Area

- ❖ By joining APIC, you get discounts on national APIC publications and registration fees for conferences. You also receive the American Journal of Infection Control for free and the APIC News (for a small additional fee).
- ❖ You may join only the national organization and not the chapter, but you cannot join the chapter without belonging to the national organization.
- ❖ Joining the local chapter is an opportunity to network with peers in the surrounding area. They are great sources of information and help whether you are a new or a seasoned infection control professional.

Orientation to our Chapter

- ❖ Awards:
 - Distinguished Service Award – is presented to a member of the chapter who has contributed time and talents for the good of the chapter or for infection control. Nominations are accepted in the fall. The awards committee selects from the nominees and the award is presented each year at the February meeting.
 - Bright Idea Award – is presented to a member who has used an unusual idea to promote infection control. Applications for the award are distributed in the fall, and a winner is selected by the awards committee based on ingenuity, creativity and uniqueness of the project.

- ❖ Grants:
 - Early Bird Registration – is awarded based on financial need of the member, with preference given to those whose institutions do not financially support travel to the national APIC convention. Applications are distributed in the fall and selection of the recipient is made by the awards committee. The grant pays only for the early bird

registration fee. The recipient must make a presentation to the chapter, usually at Professional Growth Day.

❖ Honors:

➤ CIC Certification in Infection Control

- The chapter is committed to its members being certified by the Certification Board of Infection Control (CBIC). To maintain certification, members must re-certify every 5 years. At the annual meeting in February, certificates are presented to members who certify or re-certify.

❖ Local Conferences (full-day programs):

- Long Term Care Conference hosted at Iowa Western Community College is devoted to issues in Long-Term Care. Attendance is open to all interested persons. There is a registration fee. CEUs are provided for this program. A business meeting is held during lunch.
- Professional Growth Day is an opportunity for chapter members to gather after the national convention and share information with the members who could not attend. The program, including lunch, is free. CEUs are provided for this program.
- APIC Fall Conference is held in Grand Island and is a cooperative effort of both Nebraska APIC chapters. There is a registration fee. CEUs are provided for this program.

❖ Web Sites contain pertinent information about infection control issues.

➤ Local: www.goapic.org

- Most of our chapter information is disseminated to members via the web page. Lori Snyder is our web master and all content is given to her to put on the web. Contact her at lorisnyder@lincolnwebdesign.com.
- Be sure to print out the minutes and calendar of meetings for the chapter.

- Members who do not have internet access should contact the recording secretary.
- National: www.apic.org

- ❖ Lending library
 - Our chapter owns some books, tapes, articles, and other resources that are loaned to members on request. Donations of items are also accepted from members. Contact Sharon Plummer (402) 955-3814.

- ❖ Study assistance for certification
 - Guides that can be checked out of the library that give you sample questions to help you study for the exam.
 - Study groups that work together to review questions either from the study guides or from the SARE, a take-home test.

- ❖ Sharing Session: Opportunity to share information and ask questions in the hour before regular chapter meetings. Company reps are asked not to attend this portion of the program so members can speak freely about confidential issues in their facilities.

- ❖ E-mail discussion and networking. If you join these services, be sure to remove yourself from the lists before you activate an "out of office" message in your E-mail. If you do not remember to do this, every time a message is posted, the entire group gets caught in a loop of repeating "out of office" messages.
 - Chapter listserv - Our local chapter has a free Yahoo groups list service for disseminating information. If you wish to join, contact Lori Snyder (402) 219-7333 or lorisnyder@lincolnwebdesign.com.

➤ National APIC listserve - The APIC list is an e-mail based resource that allows infection control professionals to network with each other. The APIClist features a searchable archive of all of the messages posted to the list since April 1997.

- How to subscribe to APIClist: send an e-mail message to LISTSERV@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM with the command: SUBSCRIBE APIC in the body of the message. You will receive a message requesting you to confirm your e-mail address. After confirming your address, you will receive a confirmation of your subscription and further instructions for using and participating in the list.

❖ Officers:

- President - 1 year term
- President-Elect - 1 year term, assumes duties of president the following year
- Recording Secretary - 1 year term
- Membership Secretary - 2 year term
- Treasurer - 2 year term
- Senior Board Member - 1 year term, plans chapter programs for the year. Applies for continuing education units as needed
- Junior Board Member - 1 year term, assumes duties of Senior Board member following year
- Past President - 1 year term, after serving as President

❖ Perks for Serving on the Board:

- President - \$1000 to attend and report back on National APIC Conference
- President-Elect - \$1000 to attend and report back on National APIC Conference
- Recording Secretary - \$500 to attend and report back on National APIC Conference
- Treasurer - \$500 to attend and report back on National APIC Conference
- Membership Secretary - \$500 to attend and report back on National Conference (evaluated annually per Budget and Finance Committee)

- Senior Board Member - \$500 to attend and report back on National Conference (evaluated annually per Budget and Finance Committee)

❖ Committees:

- Executive – comprised of the President, President-elect and the Treasurer.
- Nominating – 3 elected members who are responsible for running the election of officers.
- Budget and Finance – together with the Treasurer plan the budget for the next year.
- Nursing Liaison (LGNNO) -- meets quarterly in either Lincoln or Omaha to discuss legislation affecting health care and the nurses.
- Governmental Affairs – keeps abreast of national legislation affecting infection control.
- Nebraska Immunization Coalition – a multidisciplinary team that meets quarterly at Cimro in Lincoln to work on improving immunization rates in Nebraska.
- Omaha Metropolitan Immunization Task Force – meets quarterly to increase immunization rates in the Omaha area.
- Awards – solicits nominations and selects recipients for the chapter awards.
- Program – plans programs for the year.
- Nebraska Bioterrorism Education Consortium – chapter representative on the BT Consortium
- Multi Drug Resistant Organism Guidelines – revises the guideline for distribution in the state
- Bylaws – reviews and revises chapter bylaws
- Professional Growth Day – plans the PGD program each year
- Fall Conference – plans the Fall Conference program each year
- Long Term Care Conference – plans the LTC Conference program each year

❖ Common Abbreviations:

- HHA – Heartland Health Alert is a network of 35 rural and urban NE hospitals dedicated to enhancing the delivery of rural health care. The Alliance was created in 1995.
- NICN – Nebraska Infection Control Network is an organization whose purpose is to provide infection control education in Nebraska. Among other services, it offers training programs for new infection control professionals. Contact Virginia Helget (402) 960-1769.
- Bioterrorism Preparation
 - OMMRS - Omaha Metropolitan Medical Response System.
 - Lincoln MMRS - Lincoln Metropolitan Medical Response System.
 - Tri MRS - Tri city Medical Response System.
- LGNNO -- Liaison Group of Nebraska Nursing Organizations