



June, 2011

Volume 5, Issue 2

---

**Inside this issue:**

Antimicrobial Stewardship—Las Vegas	2
Operation Medicine Cabinet	2
So. Nevada Social	3
No. Nevada Social	4
Congratulations graduates!	5
Regional Delegates Conference	5
Career Center	6
Semi-Annual Technician Workshop	7
Annual Meeting Save the Date	8

---

**Points of Interest:**

Become a fan of NVSHP on Facebook:  
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nevada-Society-of-Health-System-Pharmacists/160559583327>

Renew your membership today! Visit our website for more information on how to renew:  
[www.nvshp.com](http://www.nvshp.com)

Stay up to date on NVSHP news and events. Email changes in your contact information to:  
[nvshpinfo@gmail.com](mailto:nvshpinfo@gmail.com).



## Message From The President

Hello Nevada Society of Health System Pharmacist Members,

*First I would like to start this newsletter by letting our members know that I would love to hear from you about ways NVSHP can help you advance your practice in the state. We are your organization and are here to support our members!*

May was all about membership, membership, membership!

Hopefully you were able to attend one of our social events to kick off our May membership drive. Both events in Las Vegas and Reno were well attended and a lot of fun! Be on the lookout for new NVSHP polo shirts and pins, designed by the membership committee, that were distributed at the social. The pins and polo shirts will be distributed at future CE and social events. If you would like to order a polo before our next event, please contact us at [nvshpinfo@gmail.com](mailto:nvshpinfo@gmail.com) for more information. Also, please be on the lookout for your new membership card in early July.

In February, I was able to attend the first annual Pharmacy technician meeting in Reno. It was a huge success! All CE was specific for technicians and technician students. We received great feedback from those in attendance and are looking forward to offering a similar meeting in southern Nevada this fall.

Members from the Legislative committee have been attending Nevada State Board of Pharmacy meetings monthly and are keeping the NVSHP Board and members updated on issues that have been discussed. We are looking forward to more active involvement on legislative issues and welcome any members who may be interested in volunteering their time.

The education committee has been hard at work planning the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting, which will be held on October 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in Reno. The theme chosen for this year's meeting is "Cultivating Quality in Pharmacy Practice". There will be a variety of high quality CE sessions offered again this year, including a last chance law CE provided by the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy.

I am personally looking forward to hearing an update on the 2011 ASHP Summer Meeting, where the House of Delegates will meet. Two NVSHP members, Julie Rogers and Caryn Bing, will be representing NVSHP and Nevada ASHP members at the meeting in early June. The regional delegates conference (RDC) took place in early May, more information on the is available in this newsletter.

Be sure to mark your calendars for upcoming events. They are great for catching up with old friends, networking, and of course learning. Thanks for everyone who has attended or sponsored a Nevada Society of Health System Pharmacy event. These events are successful because of you!

Once again, I want to personally extend appreciation to those who volunteer their time, effort, and ideas to help this organization be successful in serving the needs of our state. All of the highlights listed above would not have been possible without the time and talents of our Board members and committee members!

Regards,

*Tracie Balvanz*

**Immediate Past President**

Caryn Bing  
(cbing@criticalcaresystems.com)

**President**

Tracie Balvanz  
(tracie.balvanz2@va.gov)

**President-Elect**

Sandy Sierawski  
(sandy.sierawski@pfizer.com)

**Secretary**

Diana Quach  
(diana.spiro@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

Paul Oesterman  
(poesterman@usn.edu)

**Directors-at-Large**

Corrine Bailey  
(seebailey@embarqmail.com)

Gary Brooks  
(gdbrooks25@yahoo.com)

Robert Long  
(robert.long@bannerhealth.com)

**Education Committee Chair**

Kate Miller  
(KMiller@Renown.org)

**Legislative Committee Chair**

Adam Porath  
(APorath@renown.org)

**Membership Committee Chair**

Loida Nguyen  
(lc\_dominguez@hotmail.com)

**Awards and Nominations****Committee Chair**

Caryn Bing  
(cbing@criticalcaresystems.com)

**Technician Representative**

Adrienne Santiago  
(asantiago@ccnn4u.com)

**Student Representatives**

Jeni Riddle - P3 year  
(jriddle@student.usn.edu)

Michelle Blair - P2 year  
(mblair@student.usn.edu)

Anthony Fermin - P1 year  
(afermin@student.usn.edu)

**Newsletter Editor**

Michael Bartholow  
(mbartholow1@gmail.com)

## Valleywide Antimicrobial Stewardship Las Vegas

The April 2011 Valleywide Antimicrobial Stewardship meeting was held at the Southern Nevada Health District in Las Vegas. Dr. Philipp Schuetz, who is the lead author of the procalcitonin ProHOSP trial, was the guest speaker. He presented the data from the trial which identified that patients whose antimicrobial therapy was guided by procalcitonin assay levels had lower rates of antibiotic exposure and antibiotic-associated adverse effects. The program was sponsored by Thermo Fisher Scientific, who supply the procalcitonin tests. This test is currently not being used in Las Vegas, but if the group determines that there is some utility in using it to help with antimicrobial stewardship, then the labs will make it available. There was also a C. difficile hospital protocol provided at the meeting that the Valleywide Antimicrobial Stewardship group collaborated on at their last meeting. They requested people consider bringing it through their hospitals so there could be standardizing of treatments. If you would like more information on the Valleywide Antimicrobial Stewardship program, please contact Diana Rhee, Pharm.D., Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, University of Southern Nevada and Clinical Faculty at Desert Springs Hospital. ([drhee@usn.edu](mailto:drhee@usn.edu)) The ProHOSP trial data was published in JAMA, September 9, 2009: 302(10):1059-1066.

## Operation Medicine Cabinet

by Candace Ly USN P1 Student

On Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>, Operation Medicine Cabinet hosted its third drug-take back event in collaboration with the University of Southern Nevada's Drug Abuse Awareness Team, law enforcement, and various agencies, to provide the citizens of Southern Nevada a safe and environmentally friendly method to dispose of medication. There were 8 different venues throughout the Las Vegas area with at least 6 volunteers (most of whom were NVSHP members) at each site on hand from 10 am to 2 pm to collect unused, expired, or unwanted medications. More than 500 pounds of material was collected and identified, dropped off by several hundred people.

USN students, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Police department worked tirelessly to help assist Las Vegas residents with the drop off event. This was a perfect opportunity to see law enforcement work hand in hand with various agencies and local pharmacy students, as well as citizens pitching in and doing their part. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the event and to those who dropped off their medications. The support was tremendous and it is the reason why Operation Medicine Cabinet exists and is able to fulfill its mission. It is a simple reminder that any contribution of time and effort, no matter how small, can have immense implications for our future and community. If we work in partnership with each other, then together we can help our city thrive and live in a safer tomorrow.

Again, special thanks to USN's Dr. Paul Oesterman, Detective Bruce Gentner, Drug Enforcement Administration, Henderson Police Department, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, North Las Vegas Police, Southern Nevada Health District, Narcotics Education Foundation of Nevada, Pain in the Drain, Clark County Coroner, RX DrugSafe, and 8 News NOW.

# NVSHP Southern Nevada Social Mixer



NVSHP social mixer at Republic Kitchen



Julie Rodgers, organizer of the event, socializing with fellow NVSHP members and guests



Anthony Fermin (P1 student representative) receiving a Starbucks giftcard from Julie Rodgers for answering the most correct answers on the NVSHP Trivia Game



Michelle Blair (P2 representative) - winner of a free T-shirt raffle prize



Above (left to right) - Katie Craven, Paul Oesterman, Neloufar Eshraghi, Jigisha Amin

# NVSPH Northern Nevada Membership Drive



Victoria Wallington, Barbara Long, Robert Long (Director-at-Large) and Kristin Kooda (ISU student), enjoying networking at the NVSHP



Jan Carmichael and Kate Miller (Chair of the Education Committee), discussing Nevada pharmacy



Tracie Balvanz (President NVSHP) networking with new and potential members: Sue & Dan Holly, Curtis Wickwire, Victoria Wallington



Gary Brooks (Director-at-Large), Tracie Balvanz and Michelle Barcelon working on recruiting a very new member (baby Carl Balvanz)



Teresa Miller, Charles Quaglieri (who helped to coordinate and organize the event), Gary Brooks and Michelle Barcelon enjoying socializing at the event

## Congratulations 2011 USN Pharmacy Graduates

The NVSHP Board extends well deserved to congratulations to the following NVSHP members who are among the USN Class of 2011 Pharmacy Graduates. A special thank you to Jeni Riddle Burgess for her help and support as the USN Class of 2011 NVSHP student liaison (and congratulations on her recent marriage). Many of these graduates are continuing their educations with residencies in various parts of the country, some are going out of state to start their careers, and others are staying in Nevada. Congratulations also go out to 2010 USN Graduate and former NVSHP student representative Ana Negrete who after completing her PGY1 Residency at UMC in Las Vegas will be starting her PGY2 residency in West Virginia specializing in Critical Care.



Banzhaf, Darlene  
Hartsfield, Lynsee  
Kitongan, Nimitz  
Maeda, Kevin  
Manvi, Sloka  
McCullough, Aaron  
Mehta, Shreya  
Nguyen, Dung  
Nguyen, Tin  
Onukaogu, Theresa  
Patel, Alpa Metesh  
Patel, Falguniben  
Riddle (Burgess), Jeni  
Quirino, Deven  
Safavi, Negar  
Taherkani, Leila  
Ward, Shereen  
Wiest, Ryan  
Yusupov, Gary

## Regional Delegates Conference

The Regional Delegates Conference was held during the first week of May. NVSHP delegates Robert Long (alternate delegate) and Julie Rodgers attended the session in Phoenix May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The session was facilitated by ASHP President, Diane Ginsburg. Review of Policy Proposals from the Council on Therapeutics had seven policy recommendations with the Research on Medical Use of Marijuana inciting much conversation. The council on Education and Workforce Development had eight policy recommendations including Residency Equivalency. The Council on Pharmacy Management had one policy recommendation. The Council on Pharmacy Practice had four policy recommendations. The Council on Public Policy had five policy recommendations with focuses on Direct-to-Consumer Advertising of Medications and State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs. The Section of Clinical Specialists and Scientists introduced two New Business items, one regarding certification processes and the other on residency preceptor development. The Report from the Treasurer was reviewed. Implementing PPMI Practice Models was discussed and should be a focus of NVSHP. A formal request for ASHP Representation on the Board of Directors of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education was set forth in April and received positive feedback from the Delegates. The House of Delegates will meet at the ASHP 2011 Summer Meeting in Denver, CO in June. Anyone who is a member of ASHP may submit policy recommendations, by contacting one of the Nevada delegates, Julie Rodgers or Caryn Bing, prior to the House of Delegates meeting. For more information and to view or participate in discussion regarding policy recommendations, go to: <http://connect.ashp.org/ASHP/ASHP/Home/>



## FURTHERING PHARMACY. **ADVANCING CAREERS.**

Find the best jobs and the most highly qualified pharmacists Nevada has to offer.

Visit the NVSHP Career Center today!  
**[www.nvshp.org](http://www.nvshp.org)**



NVSHP Members: Not receiving emails from NVSHP? Please be sure to update your email address at [nvshpinfo@gmail.com](mailto:nvshpinfo@gmail.com) or to check your SPAM folders for email correspondence from NVSHP."

# “SAVE THE DATE”

## NVSHP PHARMACY TECHNICIAN WORKSHOP



Saturday September 24, 2011

8:00am to 4:30pm

3315 Spring Mountain Rd  
Las Vegas

Kaplan College Campus

All Nevada pharmacy technicians and students are invited to attend this one day event for continued education including Nevada Required Law CE provided by our state board of pharmacy.

**For more information, Visit [NVSHP.org](http://NVSHP.org)**

### Registration Fees:

NVSHP Pharmacy Technician Members: \$10.00

Pharmacy Technicians: \$45.00 (includes annual NVSHP membership of \$35.00)

Pharmacy Technicians attending workshop only: \$25.00

NVSHP Student Members: \$10.00

NVSHP Student Non-members: \$20.00

**Attend the workshop and join your state NVSHP association!**

Vendor Luncheon will be included

# “SAVE THE DATE”

## NVSHP 2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE CULTIVATING QUALITY IN PHARMACY PRACTICE



Oct 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
John Ascuaga's Nugget  
1100 Nugget Avenue  
Sparks, NV

Please plan on attending the 4<sup>TH</sup> Annual Conference for a wide range of CE opportunities including a last chance: Nevada Law CE, provided by our state board of pharmacy. All Nevada pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and students are invited to attend. Come and be part of the largest pharmacy organization in Nevada!

More information and registration information will be available on the NVSHP website [www.nvshp.org](http://www.nvshp.org) in late July.

# NVSHP