STRENGTHENING NURSES! EMPOWERING VETERANS!

NOVA 36th Annual Meeting

JUNE 22 - JUNE 25, 2016

The Peppermill Resort, Spa & Casino | Reno, Nevada
WHY ATTEND?

• Earn 14.25 CEUs.
• Hear presentations from VA nurses, national nursing organizations, and the Department of Veterans Affairs on the future of nursing, strengthening nurses and empowering veterans.
• Take advantage of NOVA’s special hotel rate at the beautiful Peppermill Resort, Spa & Casino.
• Attend for the FUN of it!

HAVE QUESTIONS?

REGISTRATION:
Luba Litvinova, Director of Membership & Administration
luba@vanurse.org / 703-444-5587

SESSION SPEAKERS / OPTIONAL EVENTS / POSTERS AND OTHER GENERAL INQUIRIES:
Luke Zorich, Director of Education & Meetings
lzorich@vanurse.org / 703-444-5587

AWARDS / EXHIBITS:
Susan Dove, Executive Director
sdove@vanurse.org / 703-444-5587
PURPOSE | The purpose of this program is to provide you, the attendee, with information that will enhance your ability to advocate for veterans and empower the nursing profession.

OBJECTIVES | After completion of this program, participants will be able to:

• Identify NOVA’s contributions to improving patient care in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

• Identify ways that NOVA and Veterans Service Organizations strengthen their partnerships to work together on behalf of veterans.

• Identify challenges facing veterans and families coping with common mental health conditions as they navigate the health care system.

• Identify resources for veterans who are at high risk for suicide.

• Define holistic nursing and describe the benefits for veterans and nurses.

• Identify ways to mentor and provide recognition to colleagues.

• Describe the impact of lateral violence on the nursing community.

• Summarize changes in nursing’s future in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs (NOVA) is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. In order to receive full contact hour credit for this CNE activity, you must attend, at minimum, 90% of scheduled learning activities; participate in individual or group activities, such as discussion, exercises, practice questions, pre-or post-testing, etc., complete evaluations from the courses either on site for live sessions or within one week from webinar sessions. If you don’t complete the evaluations within the specified timeframe, you will be ineligible for continuing education credit. 13.75 contact hours will be awarded for this activity.

A conflict of interest occurs when an individual has an opportunity to affect educational content about health care products or services of a commercial company with which he/she has a financial, professional, or personal relationship. The planners/presenters/authors of this CNE activity have disclosed no relevant financial, professional, or personal relationship with any commercial companies pertaining to this activity.

There is no commercial support for this CNE activity. The Nurses Organization of Veterans affairs accredited provider status refers only to continuing nursing education activities and does not imply that there is real or implied endorsement of any product, service, or company referred to in this activity nor of any company subsidizing costs related to the activity.
# Program at a Glance

**Wednesday June 22**

- **All Day**
  - NOVA Board Meeting
    - (Open to NOVA Board Members Only)
  - 3:30pm - 6:30pm
  - Registration Open

**Thursday June 23 - Continued**

- 1:00pm - 2:00pm
  - Shared Governance

- 2:00pm - 3:00pm
  - Sleep Disorders in Long Term Care

- 3:00pm - 3:15pm
  - Refreshment Break with Exhibitors

- 3:15pm - 3:45pm
  - Increasing Morale through Peer Recognition

- 3:45pm - 4:45pm
  - The Underrated Gems in the VA - Mentors: Why We Need Them

- 4:45pm - 5:45pm
  - Helping Veterans Deal with Opioid Addiction

- 6:15pm - 7:15pm
  - Welcome Reception

**Friday June 24 - Continued**

- 9:00am - 10:00am
  - Veterans: Suicide Risk Throughout The Life Span

- 10:00am - 10:30am
  - Refreshment Break with Exhibitors

- 10:30am - 11:45am
  - Poster Presentations

- 11:45am - 1:15pm
  - Awards Luncheon

- 1:30pm - 2:30pm
  - Advocacy Empowering Veterans

- 2:30pm - 2:45pm
  - Refreshment Break with Exhibitors

- 2:45pm - 3:45pm
  - VA’s Vision for Change: Empowering Veterans

- 3:45pm - 5:00pm
  - A Town Hall Meeting with ONS

- 5:00pm - 5:15pm
  - Wrap Up & Evaluation

**Saturday June 25**

- 8:30am - 3:30pm
  - Special Optional Event
    - Carson City, Lake Tahoe & Truckee Tour

  *(Not included in Annual Meeting registration fee - see registration form.)*
**WEDNESDAY JUNE 22**

All Day  
NOVA BOARD MEETING  
(Open to NOVA Board Members Only)

3:30pm - 6:30pm  
REGISTRATION

**THURSDAY JUNE 23**

8:00am - 8:30am  
OPENING CEREMONIES

Welcome By Program Co-Chairs
Nancy Elliott, MSN, RN-BC  
Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Coordinator,  
Fall Prevention Coordinator, Geriatric Resource Nurse  
Lebanon VA Medical Center
Taryn-Janae Wilcox-Olson, MHS, RN  
Patient Safety Manager  
VA Black Hills Health Care System

Presentation Of Colors  
Naval Air Station Fallon Color Guard

National Anthem  
Soloist: Melissa Beauchamp  
NPSB Program Support Assistant  
VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System

A Moment Of Silence For Lost Friends

Opening Remarks By NOVA President
Sharon Johnson, MSN, RN  
Program Manager, Patient Flow  
VA Maryland Health Care System
THURSDAY JUNE 23

8:30am - 9:30am
GENERAL SESSION:
Holistic Nursing
Speaker: Michelle McGrorey, RN, BSN, OCN, HTCP
National Holistic Nursing Association
This session will focus on different areas of holistic nursing, with an emphasis on Energy Medicine (Healing Touch), Essential Oils, Heartmath, and several studies being done on veterans, including PTSD.

9:30am - 10:30am
GENERAL SESSION:
PTSI and Moral Injury in Combat Veterans
Speaker: Robert J. Thomas, D.Min, BCC
Supervisor, Chaplain Services
VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System
This presentation will explain why it is more therapeutic and clinical to use PTS Injury versus Disorder. Regarding Combat Veterans specifically, the presentation will speak clinically about Hospice/Palliative Care, Critical Care and Acute Mental Health Wards.

10:30am - 10:45am
REFRESHMENT BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS

10:45am - 11:45am
GENERAL SESSION:
Showcasing The Positives Of The VA
Moderator:
Kelly Skinner, MSN, RN, CRRN, WCC, NP-C, GNP, BC
Chair, NOVA Posters Committee
Spinal Cord Injury Clinical Specialist
VA Boston Health Care System
Panelists:
Kassandra August-Marcuccio, BSN, RN, MSN, ACNP-BC
Nurse Practitioner, Urology Service
VA Connecticut Health Care System
Sharon A. Denham, PhD, RN, CNE
Professor, Houston J. & Florence A. Doswell Endowed Chair in Nursing for Teaching Excellence
Texas Woman’s University, Dallas Campus
College of Nursing
T. Boone Pickens Institute of Health Sciences - Dallas Center
Lucinda Houghton, MS, BSN
Clinical Educator
VA Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center & Clinics
Attendees will learn about the current and innovative nursing practices presented by fellow colleagues who have seized this opportunity to share their clinical expertise and dedication to practice, research, achievements, and projects.

11:45am - 1:00pm
LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
1:00pm - 2:00pm
**GENERAL SESSION:**
Shared Governance

**Speakers:**
Joan Clifford, DNP, RN, FACHE, NEA-BC  
Deputy Nurse Executive  
VA Boston Health Care System

Theresa Presley, MSN, RN, CNL, CCRN  
Associate Chief Nurse of Specialty & Outpatient Clinics  
VA Boston Health Care System

This session will provide an overview of the shared governance model implemented at VA Boston as well as the methods used to deploy it across the inpatient and outpatient nursing units. Speakers will share successful changes driven by these frontline teams.

2:00pm - 3:00pm
**GENERAL SESSION:**
Sleep Disorders In Long Term Care

**Speaker:** Melissa A. Napier, MS, BSN  
Clinical Consultant in LTC  
Principle Business Enterprises, Inc. / Tranquility Products

Not many would argue that sleep is critically important throughout all stages and ages of life, including geriatrics. Long Term Care is finally becoming aware that sleep deprivation is a significant issue and needs to be addressed. This presentation will identify various sleep disorders as they pertain to the LTC setting, discuss the pathophysiology of sleep deprivation, and describe treatment strategies and how the appropriate interventions can drive quality outcomes for facilities.

3:00pm - 3:15pm
**REFRESHMENT BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS**

3:15pm - 3:45pm
**GENERAL SESSION:**
Increasing Morale Through Peer Recognition

**Speaker:** Erin Pate, RN, MSN, CCRN  
Nurse Manager, Inpatient Mental Health  
VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System

This presentation will focus on how peer recognition improves the morale of a unit. Learn how to support and recognize your co-workers for their amazing contributions to caring for veterans and their families.

3:45pm - 4:45pm
**GENERAL SESSION:**
The Underrated Gems In The VA – Mentors: Why We Need Them

**Speakers:**
Catherine Bailey, BSN, RN  
NOVA Nurse Emeritus

Ruth Holmes, MSA, BSN, RN  
Office of the Medical Inspector  
VA Central Office

Sharon Johnson, MSN, RN  
Program Manager, Patient Flow  
VA Maryland Health Care System

Mentors are an important component of a successful nursing career. Who, What, Where, When, and Why?
4:45pm - 5:45pm
GENERAL SESSION:
Helping Veterans Deal With Opioid Addiction

Speaker: Sarah Reading, MD
Director, Mental Health Clinical Center
VA Maryland Health Care System

This session will provide insight and interventions to help you care for veterans who are dealing with opioid addiction.

6:15pm - 7:15pm
WELCOME RECEPTION
An opportunity to join colleagues – old and new – make new connections and catch up on old times – and celebrate 36 years of NOVA excellence!

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

FRIDAY JUNE 24

7:00am - 5:30pm
REGISTRATION

7:30am - 8:00am
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST WITH EXHIBITORS

8:00am - 9:00am
GENERAL SESSION:
The Impact Of Lateral Violence

Panelists:
Nancy Brewster-Meredith, MSN/ED, RN
Professor of Nursing
Carrington College

Margaret Curley, RN, BSN
Executive Director
Nevada Nurses Association

Stephen J. Hayden, DNP, APRN
Family Nurse Practitioner
Washoe Tribal Health Center

Salli J. Vannucci, DNP, MSN/E, RN, GCPH, CNE
Assistant Professor of Nursing
Orvis School of Nursing
University of Nevada, Reno

Nevada has been working through the Nevada Nurses Association’s State Collaborative on Lateral Violence in Nursing since 2011 to reduce the problem of bullying and incivility in Nevada health care facilities. This session will examine what the problem is, the impact on nurses, facilities, quality of patient care, the economic costs, the Nevada model for action, and how it can be replicated in other locations.
9:00am - 10:00am
GENERAL SESSION:
Veterans: Suicide Risk Throughout The Life Span

Speaker: Nikole S. Jones, Lcsw-C
Coordinator, Suicide Prevention Program
VA Maryland Health Care System

This session will explore the risk factors and warning signs of suicide in the veteran population. The presentation will also discuss VA crisis intervention resources such as the Veterans Crisis Line and the Suicide Prevention Program that provide support, safety, and access to care to veterans at risk.

10:00am - 10:30am
REFRESHMENT BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS

10:30am - 11:45am
POSTER PRESENTATIONS

11:45am - 1:15pm
AWARDS LUNCHEON

Moderator: Thelma Roach-Serry, BSN, RN, NE-BC
Chair, NOVA Awards Committee
Acting Chief, Ambulatory & PTRP Nursing
Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center

1:30pm - 2:30pm
GENERAL SESSION:
Advocacy Empowering Veterans

Moderator: Teresa Morris
Director, Advocacy and Government Relations
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs

Panelists:
René Campos, CDR, USN (Ret.)
Deputy Director, Government Relations
Military Officers Association of America
Carlos Fuentes
Senior Legislative Associate
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Shurhonda Love
Assistant National Legislative Director
Disabled American Veterans
Cathleen C. Wiblemo
Democratic Staff Director
Subcommittee on Health
House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

Panelists will discuss how veterans and nurses can work together to advocate on behalf of VA health care – reminding Congress that VA offers “the best care in the world.”

2:30pm - 2:45pm
REFRESHMENT BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
2:45pm - 3:45pm
GENERAL SESSION:
VA’s Vision For Change: Empowering Veterans
Speaker: Deborah Dort, MD
Deputy Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health
Veterans Health Administration

A dynamic and inspirational presentation from the Deputy Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health in the Department of Veterans Affairs, sharing information on the challenges and changes in navigating a new era of health care for our nation’s veterans and the people who provide care for them.

3:45pm - 5:00pm
GENERAL SESSION:
A Town Hall Meeting with ONS
Speaker: Alan Bernstein, MS, RN
Acting Chief Nursing Officer
Office of Nursing Services
Department of Veterans Affairs

5:00pm - 5:15pm
WRAP UP & EVALUATION

SATURDAY JUNE 25

Please see next page for a detailed description of Saturday’s optional event.
This fabulous optional event will allow participants to learn about the rich history of Northern Nevada as you travel through Washoe Valley into the State Capital, Carson City, with professional convention activities tour guides narrating and pointing out interesting sights along the way.

Guests will visit the Nevada State Museum of Mint, built originally as a U.S. Mint which operated from 1870 to 1895. Today, the museum is known for exhibits such as Dat So La Lee Washoe Indian baskets to Nevada natural history to Coin Press No. 1!

The group will then head over Spooner Summit to explore beautiful Lake Tahoe. There will be several short stops along the shore to enjoy taking pictures and looking at the scenery. Lake Tahoe is a large freshwater lake in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and is located along the border between California and Nevada, west of Carson City. Lake Tahoe is the largest alpine lake in the United States. Its depth is 514 meters - making it America’s second-deepest. The lake is known for the clarity of its water and the panorama of surrounding mountains on all sides. It has a maximum depth of 1,640 feet, trailing only Oregon’s Crater Lake.

Then it’s on to the memorial at Donner Summit to learn about the famous Donner Party. As one of the early wagon trains traveling across the country to California, they ran into severe weather conditions and spent a desperate winter on the shores of Donner Lake. Guests will have the chance to roam the museum and view a video detailing this harrowing and historic episode.

Finally, it's off to visit Truckee. Featured in America’s history of westward expansion, many early pioneers followed the Emigrant Trail through Truckee. Later, as the California gold rush hit a fever pitch, fortune seekers poured into the area. By 1868, the Central Pacific Railroad had reached Truckee, which had grown into a bustling, bawdy town known for its major ice harvest and lumber industries. Today, Truckee retains much of its Old West flavor and historic charm. Nostalgic Commercial Row, lined with quaint shops, offers visitors a glimpse into history.
THE PEPPERMILL RESORT, SPA & CASINO is Reno’s premiere AAA Four Diamond Resort Hotel. With sweeping mountain and city views, it combines old-world splendor with sophisticated contemporary luxury. Ten exceptional restaurants and sixteen bars and lounges offer a taste for every palate and a setting for every atmosphere, from quiet and intimate to hip and happening. Ranked the #1 Reno hotel by US News and World Report, everyone from outdoor enthusiasts to art mavens will find everything you are looking for nearby. The region is home to a mix of museums, cultural and historical points of interest, as well as beautiful and picturesque Lake Tahoe. Join NOVA for an exceptional meeting experience!

Call the Peppermill Resort’s toll free reservation line at 1-800-282-2444 or CLICK HERE to secure a sleeping room reservation!

The cutoff date for room reservations is May 30, 2016.

Be sure you say you are attending the Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs (NOVA) 2016 Annual Meeting and use the group code MNOV617 to receive NOVA’s special rate of $123.00 per night (excluding taxes and fees) for single or double occupancy. All NOVA rooms will be located in the hotel’s Tuscany all-suite luxury tower.

Reservation requests received after May 30 will be accepted on a space available basis. NOVA guests and visitors will have free access to the parking garage in addition to complimentary valet parking.

THE PEPPERMILL RESORT, SPA & CASINO, 2707 SOUTH VIRGINIA STREET, RENO, NEVADA 89502
RENO/TAHOE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT is only about two miles from the Peppermill Resort.

**TAXI**
Taxi service is available to and from the airport for about $10 one way.

**SHUTTLE SERVICE**
The Peppermill Resort provides a complimentary, easy and convenient airport shuttle, which **departs the airport every half hour beginning at 4:15am and continuing until 11:45pm**. The shuttle picks up at the North exit of the Baggage Claim area. The return shuttle to the airport departs from the valet area outside the hotel lobby and runs every half hour beginning at 4:00am. The last shuttle departs from the Peppermill going to the airport at 11:30pm.

**BY CAR**
For those who plan to rent a car at the airport and drive to the Peppermill:

- Exit the airport and turn slightly right at East Plumb Lane (follow signs for US-395 S / Carson City / Lake Tahoe / Plumb Ln)
- After 1.4 miles, turn left at South Virginia Street
- After .5 miles, your destination will be on the right

**PARKING**
Parking at the Peppermill is complimentary to guests and visitors. Complimentary valet parking is also available.
NOVA 36TH ANNUAL MEETING  
June 22 - June 25, 2016  
The Peppermill Resort, Spa & Casino | Reno, Nevada

FULL NAME

NICKNAME FOR BADGE

SPOUSE/GUEST

NICKNAME FOR BADGE

VA FACILITY

EMAIL ADDRESS

HOME ADDRESS

CITY                        STATE                   ZIP

DAYTIME PHONE                       FAX NUMBER

□ NOVA Member Registration                                   $400
□ Non-Member Registration                                     $500
□ Spouse/Guest (Non-VA Employee)                              $215
□ Daily Member Registration - Thursday                         $215
□ Daily Member Registration - Friday                           $215
□ NOVA Nurse Emeritus Registration                             $215
□ Non-Licensed Nursing Student                                 $215
□ Daily Non-Member Registration - Thursday                     $275
□ Daily Non-Member Registration - Friday                       $275
□ Optional Lake Tahoe Tour                                     $115 per ticket  
                                                              x ___ tickets

METHOD OF PAYMENT

□ Check Enclosed (Made Payable to Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs)

□ Credit Card     ___VISA     ___MasterCard

    Credit Card Number ___________________________  Expiration Date __________

    Signature ________________________________________________________________

PLEASE MAIL TO:  
NURSES ORGANIZATION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
47595 Watkins Island Square, Sterling, VA 20165

OR FAX TO: 1-703-444-5597

OR CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE

Cancellations must be in writing. There will be no refunds after 5/20/16.  
A $25 processing fee will be charged for cancellations.