25th Anniversary

June 6-9, 2007
Baltimore Sheraton City Center
Baltimore, Maryland
As the specialties of peripheral vascular surgery, and more recently, vascular medicine, have emerged in the last half-century, so has the specialized body of knowledge that defines vascular nursing practice. With rapid advancements in the diagnosis and management of a wide array of vascular diseases, nurses in nearly all health-care settings are now caring for patients with unique needs, in an ever-expanding practice environment.

In the early 1980’s, in concert with these advancements and under the leadership of a core group of self-proclaimed “vascular nurses,” a new nursing specialty began to emerge. This group of vascular nurses officially met in June of 1982 at the Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston to discuss establishing a society that would officially recognize vascular nursing as a specialty. The founding officers and Board of Trustees recognized the need for nursing to define the scope and standards of our specialty practice. Originally incorporated as the Society for Peripheral Vascular Nursing (SPVN) in 1982, and re-named the Society for Vascular Nursing (SVN) in 1990, the formal establishment of this organization served to solidly validate vascular nursing as a unique specialty.
Founding Members

Jeanne Doyle, Boston, MA
Patricia Baum, Worcester, MA
Patricia McGlone, Toledo, OH
Mitzi Ekers, Clearwater, FL
Victora Fahey, Chicago, IL
Jackie Helt, New York, NY
Nancy Jasinkowski, Toledo, OH
Sheila White Flores, New York, NY
Medical Advisory Board
Charter Members

John Bergan, MD, Chicago, IL
Victor Bernhard, MD, Philadelphia, PA
Bruce Cutler, MD, Worcester, MA
Stephen Dosick, MD, Toledo, OH
William Evans, MD, Columbus, OH
Stephen Gale, MD, Toledo, OH
Anthony Imparato, MD, New York, NY
Frank LoGerfo, MD, Boston, MA
James Menzoian, MD, Boston, MA
Thomas Riles, MD, New York, NY
Jonathan Towne, MD, Milwaukee, WI
Bhagwan Satiani, MD, Columbus, OH
Frank Veith, MD, New York, NY
Blair Vermillion, MD, Columbus, OH
H. Brownell Wheeler, MD, Worcester, MA
Ralph Whelan, MD, Toledo, OH
James S. T. Yao, MD, Chicago, IL
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### SVN Convention Locations

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1982-83: JEANNE DOYLE, BS, RN

- First informational session held to explore the prospect of establishing a vascular nursing specialty society, at the Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston, June 1982
- First volunteer leadership group formed: 8-member Board of Trustees, with allocation of officers:
  - Vice-President: Patricia Baum, Worcester, MA
  - Secretary/Treasurer: Patricia McGlone, Columbus, OH
  - Directors
    - Mitzi Andrews Ekers, Columbus, OH
    - Vicki Fahey, Chicago, IL
    - Sheila White Flores, New York, NY
    - Jackie Helt, New York, NY
    - Nancy Jasinkowski, Toledo, OH
- Established name of organization as Society for Peripheral Vascular Nursing (SPVN), emphasizing the vasculature beyond the aortic arch
- Developed Code of Regulations (Bylaws) and filed Articles of Incorporation in State of Ohio (via Law firm of Craig Frederickson)
- “Purpose and Goals” statement was developed
- Established annual membership fee of $20.00
- Established Medical Advisory Board, to provide guidance to the Trustees (and financial support!)
- First Trustees meeting, September 10, 1982 in Columbus, OH
- First vote to change name of organization from Society for Peripheral Vascular Nursing, to Society for Vascular Nurses – defeated 4-2 (2 members absent)
- Developed “themes” of practice, education, and research to incorporate into logo design
- Reports from first established committees: Publications, National Symposium Planning, Bylaws and Regional Program Planning (the first precursor of “chapters”), and Membership Promotion
- Second Trustees meeting held November 5, 1982, New York, NY.
- Established Patient Education and Community Awareness Committees
- Financial report of $3,430.00 in net assets
1983-84: JEANNE DOYLE, BS, RN

- Held first annual Symposium, a ½ day educational program at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, June 1983. Meeting Cost: $5.00 for Members and $10.00 for Non-Members
- Society membership: 192 as of June 1983
- Conducted “administrative business” with Society records maintained by Patricia McGlone in the office of William Evans, MD, Columbus, OH
1984-1985: JEANNE DOYLE, BS, RN

- First Annual Membership Business Meeting, Atlanta, GA, June 1984
- Unanimous decision by Trustees to maintain current President position for two additional years to provide continuity and leadership stability to this fledgling organization
- Transferred administrative management of Society operations to The Hunte Group, Acton, MA.
- Continued to work with Trustees to develop Society’s short and long term goals, strategic plan and mission
1985-1986: JEANNE DOYLE, BS, RN

- Second Annual Membership Business Meeting, Baltimore, MD, June 1985
- Continued ongoing membership development activities
- Transferred administrative management from The Hunte Group to Management Associates, Rochester, NY
- New members of Board of Directors elected:
  - Jeanne Doyle, Boston, MA – President
  - Mitzi Ekers, Clearwater, FL – Vice –President
  - Vicki Fahey, Chicago, IL – Secretary
  - Cheryl Crocker, KY – Treasurer
  - Pamela Anstine, FL
  - Betty Bondy, MD
  - Jeanne Jacobs, VA
  - Roberta Ronayne, Ottawa, Ontario
  - Sheila White-Flores, NY
1986-1987: MITZI EKERS, RN, MS, ARNP

- Third Annual Membership Business Meeting, New Orleans, LA, June 1986
- Challenging year with management firms and finances. Key services (such as membership recruitment and solicitation of financial contributions from industry) had not been performed. Membership and finances were at a critical level.
- A positive Board “resuscitated” a dying Society! At the annual national meeting the focus of my presidential address was the impact of making a difference! The Society survived because individual members who reached beyond the ordinary and accomplished the extraordinary.
- Pamela Anstine took on the monumental task of managing our national office after we cancelled our management firm contract. She also organized a productive financial support committee and personally mailed thousands of membership recruitment brochures.
- Henny Banning took over the Membership Promotion Activities and mailed our brochures to the immediate nursing world looking for new members, boosting our membership to a much healthier 427 members, internationally.
- Sheila White, as Symposium Planning Chairperson, solicited a record number of exhibitors, which helped finance the national meeting. She also targeted the program brochure mailings that yielded that largest number of symposium registrants we had ever had, nearly double what we had in previous years.
- Established Jeanne Doyle award to honor our visionary founder. This award was set up to recognize nurses who exhibit excellence in all areas of vascular nursing: education, practice and research.
- It was a year of not just surviving significant set backs, but of actually thriving! I was honored to have had the opportunity to work with such a dedicated group of nurses!
1987-1988: VICTORA FAHEY, RN MSN CVN

- First meeting in an international venue (Toronto, Canada, June 1987) the largest turnout ever for the annual meeting.
- At that time, there were 427 SVN members. (461 by December 1987, over 500 by June of 1988)
- SVN became a member of the Nursing Organization Liaison Forum (NOLF) of the American Nurses Association (ANA) in the fall of 1987. The purpose of NOLF was to provide a forum for discussion between national nursing organizations and ANA regarding questions of professional policy and national health policy.
- Newly enhanced Journal of the Society for Peripheral Vascular Nursing published its professional format in Sept 1987 with Jeanne Doyle as editor.
- The first “Leg Alert” screening and education program for PAD was conducted on July 9, 1987 in North Miami Beach. Two SVN members were actively involved. The program was sponsored overall by the National Council on Aging and the National Institute of Senior Centers.
- Local chapter guideline booklet was developed.
- A sample health fair booth kit was developed during this year related to PVD.
1988-1989: PAMELA ANSTINE-BESSENECKER, RN

- President Anstine-Bessenecker and Trustee Jennie Payne represented SVN at the meeting of the Committee for the National Board of Specialty Nursing Practice
- Media press release sent to Surgeon General with SVN supporting Great American Smoke-Out
- Peripheral Vascular Nursing Day announced by New York City Mayor Ed Koch, June 19, 1989
1989-1990: JANICE NUNNELEE, PhD, RN, CVN, ANP

- First year for the IMPRA travel scholarship: 51 members applied with 2 successful applicants chosen
- SVN represented by Sheila White at kick off ceremony for the National Nursing Image Campaign
- SVN represented by Janice Nunnelee in an Inter-societal Commission between the Joint Council of the Society for Vascular Surgery/International Society for Cardiovascular Surgery, North American Chapter (SVS/ISCVS), Society for Vascular Technology and American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine. This commission was developed to study the process of accreditation of vascular laboratories.
- Lower Extremity Arterial Disease booklet and Resource kit published by education committee
- Membership: 557 members
- Jeanne Doyle appointed Executive Director SPVN
1990-1991: SHEILA WHITE, RN, MA, CNOR

• Implemented vascular education among Wound Care Center (WCC) nurses & staff to identify the vascular component of the prevention and treatment of non-healing wounds
• Encouraged WCC RN’s to join and become active in The Society For Peripheral Vascular Nursing
• Provided encouragement and guidance for local chapter development
• Encouraged and assisted WCC RN’s to submit research articles to the journal, poster sessions and presentations for the Annual Symposium
• Patient Education Committee developed and published Venous Disease booklets
• IMPRA provides funding for three travel scholarships
• Vascular Rehab movement gains momentum: Mitzi Ekers presents paper at the Southern Association for Vascular Surgery
• Board approved Revenues from sale of booklets to be used for future patient education projects
1991-1992: JANICE NUNNELEE, PhD, RN, CVN, ANP

- Professional Resource guide published by Patient Education Committee: listing of vascular professional by expertise
- SPVN represented at Committee on Nursing Practice Standards and Guidelines by Judi Caudle
- SPVN represented at The Nurses in Washington Internship (NIWI) by Jacqueline Helt
1992-1993: MITZI EKERS, RN, MS, ARNP

- Name Change: In keeping with the trends of the vascular specialty, the membership voted on a recommendation from the Board to change our name to the Society for Vascular Nursing.
- During the year, we worked to develop a new logo not only to reflect our new name, but to promote a new and stronger image for vascular nursing. The new logo was well-received as it was unveiled at the 1993 annual meeting in Washington, DC, and remains the symbol of our Society today.
- Journal Publication. A major move forward for the Society this year was the transfer of the publication of the Journal from being an in-house publication to being published by the CV Mosby publishing company. We felt honored (and only a lot excited!!) that such a prestigious publishing company wanted our Journal. Through all their marketing contacts and distribution network, the Society was afforded even greater visibility and the national office was given more time for other important Society work.
- SVN annual National Meeting expanded to 2.5 days to accommodate all abstracts received. This provided greater educational benefits to our members.
- Tenth Year Gala Celebration featuring marching baked Alaskas!
- SVN published the first edition cookbook “We’re Ten and Still Cooking” (Editor: Linda Beth May)
1993-1994: JANICE NUNNELEE, PhD, RN, CVN, ANP

Jeanne Doyle and I were selected as representatives to NOLF to discuss health care reform.

The membership grew (886 members) and we contemplated a research priority study which was funded by the Society.

Regional directors appointed for promotion of Local Interest Groups

AAA booklet completed by education Committee

“A Step Ahead” PAD screening program was launched by SVN. Through industry support from the Hoechst-Rousell Pharmaceutical Company we were able to develop this program for early identification of PAD. The program was unveiled at an exciting event on Capitol Hill, and attended by senators and the President of the American Nurses’ Association. It was a proud day for SVN to be at the helm of such an important program for the nation’s health.

The Power Breakfast, a new event that I had the privilege of introducing at the annual meeting. We hosted a breakfast for all registrants to introduce to new members and review with current members all the possible ways to get involved in the Society. Using a fun-filled and motivational format, the Power Breakfast enticed many members to become more actively involved as members of Society committees, as presenters at national meetings and as officers and leaders of the Society.

- SVN supported three leaders to participate in the 1994 NOLF Meeting in Washington DC. Jeanne Doyle, Executive Director, Joann Hatton, President-Elect, and myself as President attended this historic meeting. This was the first meeting of NOLF (Nursing Organizational Liaison Forum) and SNA (State Nurses Association). The primary message that came from this meeting was “We are nurses first.”
- SVN developed Strategic Goals for 1994 – 1995. The board decided to focus on the first three strategic goals as they had been ranked in order of priority.
  - Membership
  - Certification
  - Organizational Chart Matrix
- The first steps toward Vascular Certification were initiated and workshops were held to begin the process of developing test questions. A Vascular Certification Task Force was formed with the following members, Ginger Campbell, Cynthia Lewis, and Mary Seiggreen.
1995-1996: JOANN HATTON, RN, MS, CCRN

- SVN issues position statement on Tobacco use
- Vascular nursing certification test completed
- SVN signed an open letter to congress calling for reform of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
1996-1997: CYNTHIA D. LEWIS, RN, MSN

- First year certification test went live
- First year of transition to new national office
- First year of new look to Society brochures and materials
- SVN organizational structure revamped
- Development of SVN chapters was endorsed
- SVN began exploring the idea of a Web Home Page
1997-1998: PATRICIA BAUM, RN, BSN, CVN

- Hands-on workshops offered at annual symposium
- The first SVN membership directory was published.
- The keynote address at the Symposium was delivered by Dr. Beverly Malone, President ASA
1998-1999: M. EILEEN WALSH, RN, MSN, CVN

- Represented SVN at American Venous Forum (AVF) board meeting to collaborate on common interests
- Explored opportunities to work collaboratively with the Society for Vascular Medicine and Biology (SVMB)
- Initiated change in membership of LPN to Associate member status
- Developed standard format for committee/proposal reports to the board
- Patty Lewis represented SVN and vascular nursing at ANA national task force on tele-health protocol development
- Provided SVN membership directory to members
- Partnered with the American Nurses Foundation in providing a smoking cessation education program to members
- Established SVN website
- Initiated the Journal of Vascular Nursing writing award.
- Launched Patient Education Booklet on Lower Extremity Amputation
- Explored SVN opportunities with Society of Cardiovascular & Interventional Radiology (SCVIR) with launch of Legs for Life
- Developed table top recruitment materials for display at local and regional meetings
- Completed translation of Abdominal Arterial Disease, Carotid Artery Disease and Venous Disease into Spanish
- Explored opportunity to collaborate with ANCC on vascular nursing certification program
- Attended Nursing Organization Liaison Forum (NOLF)
- Introduced electronic dues payment system for members
- Created position paper on the role of the advanced practice nurse in vascular nursing
- Approved development of a contact hour feature for publication in the Journal of Vascular Nursing
- Established the Judith Troyer Caudle Memorial Award
- Chartered four chapters: Bay Area (Tampa, FL); Connecticut; Middle Tennessee and George Washington (Washington DC)
- Developed single page patient education instruction sheets
- Revised research position statement
- Discussed SVN collaboration with newly formed Vascular Disease Foundation (VDF)
- Provided industry partnership award to Otsuka America Pharmaceuticals
- Changed Board of Trustees to Board of Directors
- Initiated a call for editor of the Core Curriculum
1999-2000: DENISE FITZGERALD, RN, MSN, NP, CVN, RT

- Membership Campaign “1000 by 2000” launched
2000-2001: RUTH EDWARDS, RN, MS, CVN

- Focused on empowering the SVN board to direct SVN.
- My tenure was only nine months due to changing the dates of the annual symposium but it was a vigorous experience of change and challenges.
- Very successful symposium in Minneapolis, with excellent attendance and over 20 exhibitors, in spite of the unpredictable Minnesota weather.
- SVN position established on Board of Vascular Disease Foundation (VDF)
2001-2002: KAREN R. BRUNI MSN, RN, NP, CVN

- SVN participated in the American Nurses Association’s initiative, Nursing’s Agenda for the Future; SVN identified Recruitment and Retention as the domain it will address in this initiative.
- SVN accepted an invitation to exhibit at the 2002 AAVS/SVS annual meeting in June.
- Norma Stordahl - agreed to represent SVN as Ambassador to Nurses House.
- The Board of Directors met in November 2001 and set a new strategic plan for the coming 2-3 years.
- SVN was audited by an independent auditing firm. Puetz & Associates was commended by the auditor for the way SVN’s financial resources were managed.
- The National Federation of Specialty Nursing Organizations (NFSNO) and the Nursing Organizations Liaison Forum (NOLF) have merged and become the Nursing Organizations Alliance (The Alliance). Belinda Puetz, SVN Executive Director, was elected Secretary of The Alliance. SVN will be one of the Charter members of The Alliance.
- The board approved the development of a SVN member “list serv” which would replace the current Bulletin Board.
- A Management Task Force was initiated to explore the management contract which was due to be renewed. After a thorough review of the current management company and others that submitted management proposals, the task force recommended that SVN renew its contract with Puetz & Associates.
- The Geriatric Task Force was disbanded; the focus was shifted to working on an ongoing End-of-Life project.
- The research grant was awarded to Martha Buffman for proposal, “A Music Intervention to Reduce Anxiety prior to Vascular Angiography Procedures.”
2002-2003: MARGE LOVELL RN, CCRC, CVN

- Formed Past President's Council; this council will serve in an advisory and historical role for SVN and report biannually to the President.
- Explored role of past president to remain on the Board, voted against because of financial reasons.
- Annual Symposium changed to Annual Convention with Bylaws approval.
- Restructured SVN Committees- Membership Promotion & Recognition Committee and Patient Education Committee disbanded. - Chapters became a standing committee.
- SVN represented at the Vascular summit in Bethesda, MD by Patty Lewis and I; early stage for the formation of the PAD Coalition.
- SVN recognized as Charter member of the Nursing Organizations Alliance.
- SVN collaborates on National agendas: PAD Awareness Campaign, ANA Agenda for Future and End of Life Nursing Education Consortium.
- SVN participated in 2003 AAVS/SVS annual meeting in Chicago.
- The Board approves membership due increases to $110.00 annually.
- Innovative sources of revenue were explored: Corporate membership package, website revenues and subcommittee for Convention Exhibitors.
- Twentieth Anniversary Celebration of SVN.
2003-2004: PATRICIA LEWIS, MSN, FNP, CVN

- ANA approval of SVN’s Scope and Standards of Practice.
- Introduction of new Corporate Membership category, which will strengthen our affiliations with industry.
- Marge Lovell (Past president) & Alan Hirsch, MD elected co-chairs of PAD Coalition.
- Completion of the first vascular nursing certification review workshop.
- Completion of the ANA Task Force on Nursing’s Agenda for the Future mentorship project. Of 72 professional nursing societies, SVN is the only organization to develop this topic for national use in response to the nursing shortage.
2004-2005: CATHERINE WIEGAND, RN, MSN, CNS, CVN

- Distributed Chapter Resource Manual to chapters
- Board initiated new SVN new strategic plan
- Formed collaboration with Preventive Cardiovascular Nurse Association
- SVN awarded Nurse Competence in Aging Planning Grant
- Established Public Policy Task Force
- Chartered Chesapeake Bay Chapter
- Approved Joint Meeting with other vascular societies
- Reviewed ACC/AHA Practice PAD Guidelines
- Collaboration with ACC Scope and Standards of Practice for Cardiovascular Nursing with Diane Treat-Jacobson and Pat Matula as representatives
- SVN represented at PCNA Annual Meeting by Mary Siegreen
2005-2006: CAROLYN ROBINSON, RN, ANCP

- SVN was awarded a Nurse Competence in Aging Implementation Grant and formed a task force to accomplish the goals.
- SVN remained active in the PAD Coalition with former SVN president Marge Lovell as co-chair along with Dr. Alan Hirsch.
- SVN endorsed the PAD guidelines and its members served on the scientific committee, the membership committee, the education committee and the PAD guideline Implementation task force.
- Marge Lovell was an invited and a well received speaker at the PCNA annual meeting and the decision was made to continue the partnership.
- SVN continued its involvement with the Vascular Disease Foundation (VDF).
- Membership Committee was reinstated.
- Public Policy Task force sent its first representative to the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) and the task force became a reality.
- SVN participated in the first AVS free vascular screening program which was held immediately after the close of the convention.
- Patty Lewis received Jeanne E. Doyle Award
- Presided over Convention activities in Las Vegas, NV (2006)
# Jeanne E. Doyle Award Winners

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Remember When...

- Nurses stood up when Doctors entered the unit gave up their seats to them
- We had to get permission to educate our patients
- We wore caps, white shoes and stockings and real uniforms that were starched
- Hospital beds were not automatic
- You made an unoccupied bed
- We took cuff pressures
- Nurses smoked at the nurses station
- You had to calculate medication dosages
- Most instruments, supplies, equipment were NOT “DISPOSABLE”
- There were no 12hour shifts with 3 days off (we worked 12+ hour shifts WITHOUT 3 days off)