

*****ATTENTION Student Nurses Assoc. (SNA)
MEMBERS & ALL NURSING STUDENTS***
SNA's Weekly Update:**

Member of the week: Maria Luke

Maria is one of three VALOR students from Boise State this year. She is married and the mother of two young girls.

Year: 7th Semester - Senior!!

Why nursing: I saw so many friends and family blessed by amazing nurses. I loved the idea of nursing for years before actually pursuing my nursing education. Thankfully, after my first clinical experience and since then, I discovered how much I love the work. I love the patients, the fellow nurses, and the environment. It is definitely something I was meant to do.

Why did you join SNA: I liked the idea of belonging to an organization that keeps me informed regarding nursing conferences, education and scholarship opportunities, and nursing practice.

What is the VALOR program: It is a program through the Boise VA hospital. It stands for VA Learning Opportunities Residency. It is open to all Bachelor level nursing students in the last year of school. VALOR nurses work 800 hours during their senior year in a specific unit of the hospital as a "resident." It is like having a full year of preceptorship and getting paid for it.

How has VALOR prepared you for your career as a nurse: The VALOR program has been such a great experience for me. I have, of course, been able to practice so many skills, and this has made me very confident in those abilities, but more importantly, it has taught me to trust my judgment, communicate with the entire healthcare team, and truly be an advocate for my patients. I love every day at work and I have made great friends in my field. It has also given me a chance to try out some specialties to see if they were a good fit for me. I feel confident going into the NCLEX test because of my experience as a VALOR. I have gained a couple mentors that want me to succeed in my future and are guiding me to the people that will help me do so. The last benefit, one that is very important as a soon-to-be graduate, the VALOR program got my foot in to the VA hospital, which has great

benefits and a commitment to retaining the VALOR nurses that they train, which takes some pressure off me in my last year.

Next lecture series

When: October 24 from 5:15 p.m.-6 p.m.

Where: Room 410/411 in Norco

Speakers: Karen Breitzkreuz

Topic: Nursing in Africa

Pizza will be provided!

Next general meeting

When: November 7 and 8 from 4:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

Where: Room 410/411 in Norco

Agenda: Ornament making

Volunteer opportunity

What: Rake Up Boise

When: November 17

Where: TBA

As soon as we know what time and where, we'll make an announcement. If you're interested in participating, please e-mail Kaylee Humphrey at bsusna@gmail.com.

T-shirts on sale

We have a limited number of the Buster Bronco t-shirts still for sale. Please contact Elise Russell-Manicke at bsusna@gmail.com to purchase one.

Thanks to everyone who ordered t-shirts. They are currently being printed. We will keep you posted on the orders' status and let you know when to pick up your shirts.

Homecoming float

Check the schedule and show up to help!

- Friday 5-8 p.m. in the library parking lot

- Saturday 6 a.m. in the library parking lot. The float will be taken to the northwest corner of the Brady Garage at 8 a.m.

ISNA conference

The conference will feature a Kaplan NCLEX review and a visit from NSNA Imprint editor Christy Apple-Johnson

When: October 19

Where: Owyhee Plaza in Boise

Registration: Go to

<http://idahonurses.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=143>

Cost: The cost to walk-in will be \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members. The Kaplan NCLEX review is an additional \$5 after that date.

For more information, please visit

<http://www.idahostudentnurses.org/state-convention-2012.html>

Idaho SNA offices open

The Idaho Student Nurses Association currently has multiple openings on its board, including legislative chair. For more information, please contact ISNA president Chelsea Collins at collchel@isu.edu.

Help us fill the diaper!

We'll be collecting diapers for local refugees from Oct. 15 until Nov. 15. We need sizes newborn, 1, 2, 3, and 4. Donation bins will be located in the LRC, SNA breakroom, and the atrium on the third floor. The diapers will be given to CARES, a maternal child program. For more information, please e-mail us at bsusna@gmail.com.

SNA elections

Please check out the attached flyers for the candidates. Voting is Oct. 22 to Oct. 31.

Career fair

Want to brush up your resume? Meet potential employers? Listen to tips on job searches? Come to our career fair on November 10 from 9 a.m. to 2

p.m. Admission is free for SNA members and \$5 for non-members. More information will be announced as we get closer to the fair.

Seniors needed

The NCSBN National Simulation Study needs 12 senior students on Nov. 2 to assist with the final testing of materials to be used in graduating post-tests for the sim study. These materials will be used in the final Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). This is the same premise that medical students go through to get their medical licenses.

There will be five stations, each lasting from 10-15 minutes. This is a precheck, so students are not being evaluated. The material is.

The event will occur Friday, Nov. 2 from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Simulation Lab.