

August 26, 2009

Dear Members,

The Board of Directors for 2009 and I would like to welcome all of you to a new year with LaITNS. We are looking forward to a new year of continued growth and development.

In continuing with our commitment to promote clinical excellence in transplant nursing, I would like to announce that, as in the past, we will hold quarterly chapter business/dinner meetings this year. This is a wonderful opportunity to obtain continuing education credit needed for certifications and licensure and to network with fellow transplant nurses. I would like to thank our sponsors and their support for our dinner meetings.

The 2009 meetings are as follows: March 10th, June 10th, September 10th, and December 4th. Times, topics and locations will be announced as the dates approach. We encourage you to give us your ideas for topics. We want this to be interesting and informative for everyone, so your input is welcome.

Due to the changes in company policies, we reinstated membership dues and there will be a charge for all dinner meetings. Each dinner meeting will be a charge of \$15 for members and \$30 for non-members. This gives us the opportunity to support our members who are attending professional symposiums and meetings. You will also still be required to maintain your national membership at a cost of \$75 annually. This is an excellent opportunity to recruit new members. As an ITNS member you enjoy many benefits including, participating in transplant-specific educational programs, networking with transplant professionals, free continuing education credits, information via newsletters and web sites, and access to patient education materials. The 18th Annual ITNS Symposium and General Assembly will be held in Montre'al, Que'bec Canada, on September 24-26th. More information may be obtained at www.itns.org.

I would like to thank all of our current Board members for their assistance in continuing the efforts of our organization in the face of such personal and professional tribulation.

The current Board of Directors is as follows:

Inna Goldvarg President Emeritus, Cathie Bailey-President Elect, Sissie Navo-Secretary, Margaret White-Director, Kristy Haydel-Director, and Alice Bordelon-Treasurer.

This year's elections for the LaITNS Board of Directors will be held during the September meeting and will be announced at the December meeting. Serving on the board is an excellent opportunity to become involved in the chapter, share ideas for improvement, and meet new people. In closing, please remember to check our web site, www.laitns.org, frequently. This website is the most up to date source for information regarding upcoming events, meetings, and member accomplishments. I look forward to seeing you at each chapter meeting and hopefully at the International Symposium.

Best Wishes,

Tere Crouchet, RN-BC, CCTN
President – LaITNS 2009