

## Questions and Answers – 36<sup>th</sup> AAN Annual Meeting & Conference

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Conference Planning Committee, led by Doreen Harper, PhD, RN, FAAN and Eileen Zungolo, EdD, RN, CNE, FAAN, has been working tirelessly to make the upcoming meeting more interactive to allow the members to participate directly in the organization's effort to have a continued voice in health care reform. AAN and the planning committee are working on a number of exciting changes. They have prepared these questions and answers to help guide you as you plan to attend our meeting.

### **Where is the Conference? How can I contact the hotel?**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference will be held at the Marriott Atlanta Marquis in Atlanta, Georgia.

The address is:

265 Peachtree Center Avenue

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Phone: 1-404-521-0000

Fax: 1-404-586-6299

Web: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/atlmq-atlanta-marriott-marquis/>

### **Why am I charged one night's room non-refundable deposit?**

This was implemented to protect the Academy for large attrition (not meeting our sleeping room projections) charges from the hotel.

### **Why did I not receive a preliminary program in the mail?**

AAN will build on last year's efforts and do more to make our conference green. This means that we will provide the preliminary program and many of the meeting materials in an electronic format. This will save paper and give you less to carry home. Please check your email for our announcement. You will also receive a post card announcing the availability of the preliminary program. You can find the materials at:

[www.aannet.org](http://www.aannet.org).

### **I understand the program is changed. What can I expect?**

The Annual Meeting & Conference program is designed to be interactive. We will be having a series of presentations from health care leaders, and the participants will be asked to work in small groups to respond to discussion questions after the speaker presentations. The information collected from these discussions will be compiled into a publication which will be posted on the AAN web site for Annual Meeting & Conference attendees to review.

### **Who are the speakers for the meeting?**

There will be a number of exciting speakers at this year's meeting, including: Corinne H. Rieder, EdD, Executive Director and Treasurer of The John A. Hartford Foundation and Ken Thorpe, PhD, Executive Director, Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease and Dr. David Satcher, Director, The Satcher Health Leadership Institute and Center of Excellence on Health Disparities, and the former Surgeon General of the United States

### **I understand that there will be changes in the Living Legends ceremony. What will this event be like?**

The Living Legends ceremony will be reformatted to put a greater emphasis on these inspiring leaders by highlighting their work and its impact on health care. The event will still be held on Thursday evening and will be a ceremony followed by a wonderful reception.

**I understand we are no longer holding a banquet for the induction of new fellows. What are we doing instead? Why did we make this change?**

The Academy's Awards Ceremony and Induction Banquet are being given a fresh new look. The Induction Ceremony will be tailored to put a larger focus on honoring our award winners and new inductees. Additionally we are replacing the banquet with an elegant soiree which will immediately follow the Induction Ceremony. This redesigned event will allow the awardees, inductees and their colleagues to both celebrate and network. The soiree will be scheduled to end a bit earlier than in the past, to allow attendees to mingle at other receptions or go to dinner with friends, family or colleagues.

This change is an effort of the AAN Board of Directors to be responsive to the Fellow's comments. For a number of years, the meeting evaluations contained advice regarding the length of this event and the dinner format. At the beginning of 2008 a member survey was created to gather more information about the annual meeting & conference.

We were pleased to see a majority of the Fellows that responded were interested in exploring a change to this traditional format. After discussion and deliberation, the decision was made to host an event that recognizes the significance of the honor of selection as a New Fellow and create an atmosphere of celebration. Therefore, we are hosting an induction ceremony to be followed by an elegant soiree.

**What will the Ceremony and Soiree be like?**

The festivities will begin with the induction ceremony which will be held in a large meeting room. It will start promptly at 5:00 pm on Saturday. The individual new Fellow inductees will be inducted very much like previous years.

**Please explain the new format for the Induction.**

To maintain the significance of the Induction Ceremony, it has been determined to celebrate after all Fellows have been announced. For this reason we have split the evening into two events. The first event is the Induction Ceremony, immediately followed by the second event, the Soiree

**May I reserve a table at the Induction?** This year table seating at the Induction will be by NEW FELLOW. When you register, you will indicate which new fellow/s you are celebrating. When you pick up your registration materials you will be given your table assignment. At the Induction, each table will be identified by the name of a new fellow.

**What is a Soiree?** A soiree is a chic, elegant, well-dressed party! We will be having a wealth of food and beverage selections, musical entertainment, and an opportunity to mix and mingle with all the Fellows, new and old!

**What should I wear for the Induction and Soiree?**

We are still anticipating that you will be adorned in your finest – the more sparkle the better

**How much does it cost to bring a guest to the Induction and Soiree?**

Guest tickets cost \$100.00 for this event.

**Why are the Induction and Soiree so early?**

By moving the timing up to early evening, friends and family have the opportunity for more personal, intimate celebrations. We are considering a "Meet and Eat" booth during the meeting to help make dinner plans. Also, by going to the AAN Web site ([www.aannet.org](http://www.aannet.org)) and clicking on the conference banner, a list of restaurants can be located and you can make your own plans.

**How many new Fellows will be inducted this year?**

The Academy is pleased to announce that 98 nurse leaders will be inducted as Fellows during this year's conference!

**When will the Expert Panels meet?**

Expert panel co-chairs will have the option of selecting Thursday, November 5, 2009 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm and/or Saturday, November 7, 2009 from 12:00 – 2:00 pm for the expert panel meetings. Contact your co-chair to confirm your meeting time. Meeting times will be posted at the Annual Meeting and published in the AAN Annual Meeting & Conference final program.

**I would like to pay by check but I only see Visa or Mastercard as options on the online registration.**

Please mail the registration forms to AAN with your check.

The address is:

Attn: Conference Registration  
American Academy of Nursing  
888 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20006

**I would like to pay using American Express.**

While AAN does not accept American Express, we would be happy to process your payment using Visa, Mastercard, or a check.

**I would like to bring a guest to the Living Legends Reception and/or Induction and Soiree.**

**Where do I buy guest tickets?** Please email [conferences@aannet.org](mailto:conferences@aannet.org) and ask a Guest Ticket Request Form. It will be emailed to you.

**What is the Annual Fund Event?**

The Annual Fund Event "Love Your Legacy" will be held at the historic Fox Theatre. Transportation to/from the hotel will be provided. The "Love Your Legacy" piece of the event is that the Academy is challenging each Induction "class" to see which "class" can generate the highest level of contributing to the Annual Fund. The winner will be announced at the Annual Fund Event and the winning "class" will be permanently honored on a plaque in the Academy's office.

**Can I extend my stay at the Marriott and continue to receive the group rate?**

Yes the rate is guaranteed available from November 2 – 10, 2009.