Candidates’ responses to the Q&A are presented in their entirety without changes, edits, or corrections.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Carol Ann Devlin, MSN, RN, CNOR

1. Surveys of members indicate the most common reason they don’t vote is that they feel that they “don’t know the candidates.” To help the members get to know you better describe something you are passionate about or enjoy doing in your free time.

In my free time, beyond professional and community service, I enjoy learning new skills. Sometimes, I learn a new cooking technique like making ricotta cheese or yogurt. I rarely purchase them anymore because it is very easy to make them homemade and they are so delicious freshly made! While on a beach vacation, I learned how to cook seafood. I learned the science behind acids like citrus fruits and their cooking action. Other times, I have learned how to make and paint decorations. These new skills come in handy when we entertain, which I also love!

Since our children are grown and flown, I started tennis lessons. It’s fun to play a sport for the first time in my life and make lots of new friends! I enjoy taking tennis lessons
and clinics with friends especially while we travel together. My passion is life and living it to the fullest!

2. Describe your most meaningful day in the OR, or in the office, and how it has impacted your current practice, or work, as a nurse.

The day that I cared for a local homeless man was the most meaningful day in my career as a private RNFA. Because he was poor and homeless, many assumed that he would receive less care and not participate in the vital rehabilitation leading to a poor outcome. Each time he came in for follow-up care or therapy, I provided him with respect, food, and care. He sought care five days a week and had a full recovery.

I strive to use empathy and compassion with students, peers, and patients to promote health and wellness! On those days, I was able to live up to one of my favorite quotes:

When we treat people merely as they are, they will remain as they are. When we treat them as if they were what they should be, they will become what they should be.”
~Thomas S. Monson

3. Identify the two most important things you feel need to be a part of the candidate selection process.
Position Requirements
Providing potential candidates with a clear picture of their role and responsibilities is essential to inviting candidates who best fit AORN’s leadership positions. Requirements include the role, responsibilities, time commitments, and overall expectations. For example, some positions require time away from home and work. Candidates must consider if they and their employer can accommodate time off and any financial impact.

Candidate screening
Seeking candidates who have the skills and abilities for each AORN position is key, including mentoring skills. Strong mentors attract nurses to the perioperative field and to participate in AORN, which leads to retention in our specialty. Candidates, elected or not, have the responsibility to share their passion for perioperative nursing while mentoring peers and students. Nurses new to and seeking perioperative nursing need the support of perioperative mentors. Those selecting AORN candidates should select applicants who will guide nurses and students in our complex specialty.