

OUR MISSION: TO BUILD AND SUSTAIN A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION THAT ADVOCATES FOR LACTATION PROFESSIONALS.

OUR VISION: IBCLCS ARE VALUED RECOGNIZED MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH CARE TEAM.



USLCA E-news
March 2008/ Issue 7

From the President

Welcome to Faith Ploude, Newest USLCA Board Member!

Please join me in welcoming Faith Ploude to the USLCA Board of Directors. Faith replaces Liz Flight on the Board in the role of Director of Liaisons and Advocacy. Faith was appointed to serve the remainder of Liz's term which ends in 2009. Faith brings energy and experience to the board. She is the Lactation Services Manager for inpatient and outpatient services at Mercy Hospital in Miami, Florida. To learn more about Faith's background, [click here](#).



Glenda Dickerson, RN, MS, IBCLC
USLCA BOD President

I look forward to serving with Faith on the Board and hope that many of you will be able to meet Faith at the USLCA/ILCA conference in July. See you in Las Vegas!

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Meet Faith Ploude

Faith Ploude, Lactation Services Manager for inpatient and outpatient services at Mercy Hospital located in Miami, Florida. Faith has held this position since 2000. She is a graduate from Trinity International University and a Board Certified Lactation Consultant since 1986. Faith has 25 years experience in Maternal Child Health issues with emphasis on childbirth education, parenting education, infant massage and over 22 years in lactation counseling. [read more.](#)



Upcoming Board of Directors Meeting: March 30-April 3

The Board of Directors will be meeting in Las Vegas at the Red Rock Resort from March 30 to April 3. The main focus of this meeting will be to work on the strategic plan for our organization. If you have thoughts about what this plan should include—as well as ideas on how to move those plans into action, please send them to Scott Sherwood, Executive Director, at executivedirector@uslcaonline.org.

USLCA eNews Goes Monthly!

Did it seem like you just received the last issue of the eNews and now here another issue has appeared in your inbox? In an effort to bring timely news of interest to our members, the eNews is now a monthly newsletter. Please send articles or ideas you'd like to share with other members to me at eNewsEditor@ilca.org.

Thanks!

Melissa Vickers, MEd, IBCLC
USLCA eNews Editor

APHA Breastfeeding Policy Available

In the November issue of the *eNews* we reported that the American Public Health Association had recently passed a new—and impressive—Breastfeeding Policy statement that advocates for breastfeeding protection, promotion, and support, and includes language about the importance of legislation and "skilled lactation services" to help in this important public health issue. The full policy is now available on the [APHA website](#).

CHAPTER NEWS

Monthly USCLA Chapter Conference Calls

Monthly USLCA Chapter conference calls continue to provide exciting opportunities to share ideas, discuss possibilities, and plan for the future of our organization. If you would like for your chapter to be represented in the discussion, contact Karen Querna at Secretary@uslcaonline.org. The next conference call is scheduled for Sunday April 6, at 4:00pm EST.

Getting to Know You

Meet ALCA—Alabama Lactation Consultant Association

History: ALCA is a new organization, just formed in 2007. The history of the organization goes back to the early 1990's when the Alabama Breastfeeding Coalition was first begun with a mission to increase support for breastfeeding mothers in Alabama. Representatives of organizations from throughout the state were selected for membership. Meetings were held quarterly. In 1996 a steering committee met to look at future of the organization, Amy Spangler met with the group in Mobile and helped them form a mission statement, plan organizational structure and membership criteria. Over the next 10 years ABC continued meeting and providing educational workshops. [read more.](#)

CONFERENCE/EVENT UPDATES

Red Rock Update—ILCA 2008

By now you should have received your registration booklet for this summer's ILCA conference at the Red Rock Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada—and if you've looked at the session list, your biggest challenge will be deciding WHICH of the wonderful sessions you will attend. In order to assure a seat at the sessions you choose and save 15% on the standard registration fee, register by May 15, 2008 at <http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=0822c6d2-6b62-44e4-bca2-177876b2639d>

Conference volunteers are still needed to help make this conference a success. If you are looking for a way to be involved in the conference, contact Karen Querna at Secretary@uslcaonline.org.

Remember to encourage your friends and co-workers to attend this event. USLCA is co-sponsoring the conference, and the more people who attend, the more profit USLCA will receive. That's a win-win situation for all of us!

Practical Perspectives

Meet Sharon Birdseye, RN, IBCLC, from Atlanta, Georgia



Meet Sharon Birdseye, RN, IBCLC, an IBCLC since 1987 in the metro Atlanta area. Sharon started the first private practice lactation consultant office in the Atlanta area (not affiliated with a hospital or doctor's office) in 1988 and has been helping mothers and babies breastfeed through innovative services and outreach programs. While the Atlanta area has many IBCLCs

in various settings, the population base still provides more than enough work to keep Sharon busy! Most of the consultant work is done by Sharon, but she has two other IBCLCs who work under a contractual arrangement as needed. In addition, she has an online pump store, 5 rental substations around the metro area, 2 interns, and has two successful corporate lactation programs at the Weather Channel and Home Depot corporate offices. [read more.](#)

Healthy People 2020 Meetings: Are You Going?

The first of the Healthy People 2020 public input meetings is happening in Atlanta March 17, to be followed by 5 more in the months to come. As reported in last month's eNews, we would like to make sure that USLCA's voice is heard at each of these important meetings. If you plan to attend, please let Scott Sherwood know at

executivedirector@uslcaonline.org. The meetings are open to the public (preregistration is required), and there is a mechanism in place to ask questions and speak to the group. See the Healthy People 2020 website for more information. [read more.](#)

LIAISON REPORTS: Executive Summary

United States Breastfeeding Committee (USBC) 2nd National Conference of State/Territory Breastfeeding Coalitions occurred on January 26-28, 2008 in Washington, DC. There were 285 representatives in attendance.

Molly Pessl, BSN, RN, IBCLC and Carol A. Ryan, MSN, RN, IBCLC were the USLCA representatives. Ms Pessl was able to report and distribute to the USBC members the new ILCA position paper on *Working and Breastfeeding*. Molly Pessl will continue to serve on the Nominating Committee and Health Practices Committee. She became the "temporary" chair of the Competencies Project, in the absence of Janet Engstrom, CNM. Carol Ryan will continue to chair the membership committee and serve on the Health Practices Committee. [read more.](#)

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