A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR  

Burn Prevention Committee: You Get As Much (if not more!) of What You Give

I know that it is trite when I can only describe the Burn Prevention Committee as “you get as much as you give.” To truly serve on a Committee, you need to be engaged and contribute to projects and the Committee work. It is not enough to serve on a Committee in name sake, as I wholeheartedly believe that you receive far more out of what you give in Committee work.

After recently returning from the American Burn Association’s National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., I am rejuvenated and energized to return to my organization knowing that I was able to educate my state’s congressional representatives and senators about the importance of burn prevention and burn care research. This was my first time attending the National Leadership Conference, and it was exciting to walk down the halls of Congress with colleagues from the American Burn Association, meeting with my state’s representatives and feeling like my organization can contribute and benefit from this work. I was grateful for the opportunity to participate in something like this, something I had never done before, and it made me take stock in all of the benefits of serving on the Burn Prevention Committee.

As a newcomer to the burn care industry, the Burn Prevention Committee has afforded me the opportunity to participate and engage in learning opportunities to help me in my role as the Executive Director of the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation. I have been able to author and publish articles in the biennial Burn Prevention newsletter. I have been able to network and meet burn prevention specialists and experts from throughout the county. I have been able to serve as an abstract, Burn Prevention Paper Award and Journal of Burn Care Research peer reviewer. I have been able to submit and present on multiple burn prevention related posters. I have been able to submit and judge burn prevention posters from around the world. But most proudly, I am able to say that I am a member of a world-renowned association- the American Burn Association.

At times, the workload can get heavy and deadlines can become tight, but when I reflect upon how much work I have put into the Burn Prevention Committee, it is far outweighed by the experience and opportunities that serving on the Burn Prevention Committee has afforded me professionally. Your voice can only be heard if you speak up and significant progress can only be made if you contribute. We all struggle with balancing a busy work schedule, along with a home life, and may not think that we have any additional time to contribute to additional projects. But Committee work can be some of the most challenging, and rewarding, work that you may encounter in your career. I encourage all those who are interested in learning more about burn prevention or wanting to contribute to burn prevention efforts, to apply for the Burn Prevention Committee. Trust me, you will definitely get back as much (if not more) than what you give to the Burn Prevention Committee.
2016 Burn Peter Brigham Best Burn Prevention Epidemiology Paper

Congratulations to the first ABA Burn Epidemiology/Prevention Best Paper Award recipients: Hala Bedri, MD, Kathleen S. Romanowski, MD, Junlin Liao, PhD, Ghassan Al-Ramahi, MD, Jason Heard, BS, Thomas Granchi, MD, MBA, FACS, Lucy Wibbenmeyer, MD, FACS.

The Burn Epidemiology/Prevention Best Paper Award recognizes original research studies which may address any single burn or fire prevention problem, a specific population, multiple etiologies, or epidemiology. This ABA award is generously underwritten by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Charitable Foundation Burn Fund for the next five years.

The 2016 ABA Burn Epidemiology/Prevention Best Paper Award goes to: ‘A National Study of the Effect of Race, Socioeconomic Status, and Gender on Burn Outcomes’. Special thanks to the ABA Board of Trustees for approving the name change of this award in honor of Peter Brigham who truly was a legacy of his own.

Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest

Jennifer Rubin, Coalition Coordinator, Safe Kids Greater Sacramento

Safe Kids Greater Sacramento members, Cosumnes CSD Fire Department and Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Protection District joined forces to host their second annual Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest in October 2016. Pre-K through 6th grade students were invited to submit posters promoting the 2016 NPFA Fire Prevention Week theme, “Don’t Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years.” Prizes were awarded in each grade level for the posters that best conveyed the fire safety message. Students could also enter to win an additional prize by completing the Smoke Alarm Challenge. This challenge asked students to check each of their smoke alarms at home and record their date of manufacture and whether or not they needed to be replaced. Prizes were handed out at an awards night held at Shriners Hospital for Children of Northern California.

From left: Chris Dargan, Community Risk Specialist, Sacramento Metro Fire; Grand Prize Winner Kaylani of Galt, CA; Jennifer Rubin, Injury Prevention Program Lead and Safe Kids Greater Sacramento Coalition Coordinator; and Brittany Lemon, Community Outreach & Public Education Officer, Cosumnes Fire Department.
Burn Injury Awareness Task Force Summit
Tom Flamm, Burn Fund Coordinator, International Association of Fire Fighters

From November 29th to December 2nd, the Burn Injury Awareness Task Force met in Clearwater Beach, Florida to finalize the project the group had been working on for the 2014 FEMA Grant. With a team made up of professionals from different disciplines, an online resource center for burn injuries was created to meet the needs of first responders, fire fighters and EMTs, burn care advocates, public health professionals, burn foundations, and burn prevention organizations. The Burn Resource Center is an online informational tool that will provide various medical and burn professionals with the vital information that they may need regarding the response, treatment, and healing of burn injuries. The goal of this resource is to give concerned individuals the ability to access the definitive care they need in order to mitigate a burn injury. Each field will find information directly related to their role in burn injury care within one online resource tool.

The response portion of the online resource will contain information regarding the immediate actions that should be taken when a burn injury occurs. This includes fire service response policies on where and when to transport a patient to a burn center. The treatment portion will contain information regarding the medical procedures and policies for doctors and nurses at clinics and non-burn center hospitals to utilize best care practices. The healing portion of the resource will provide information on the resources available for support and after-care for both the mental and emotional healing after a burn injury. The Burn Resource Center is expected to go live online in February of 2017.

Burn Awareness Week in Texas
Stephanie Campbell, BSN RN CCRN, Burn Program Manager, Parkland Regional Burn Center

Parkland Regional Burn Center in Dallas, TX hosted its 2nd Annual Burn Prevention & Fire Safety Fair for employees, patients, and visitors. Educational booths included Lithium Battery Safety, Gasoline Safety, Scald Prevention and Cooking Safety, Home Oxygen Safety, Candle Safety, Children & Fire Play, and Minor Burn Treatment. Dallas Fire-Rescue Department also came out to provide fire safety education and Sparky the Fire Dog visited patients in the burn center. Many of the attendees commented when leaving that they had learned new strategies to stay safe from burn injuries. Parkland Burn Center staff enjoyed participating in the fair!

This event has been a great opportunity for their team to learn more about what’s new in prevention and to spend some time interacting with the community. They also had several media outlets cover the fair and some staff appeared on a local talk show to help spread the messages of burn prevention and burn awareness. Parkland also hosted two additional Burn Awareness Week events later in the week, a Burn Survivor Panel for new nurses and a party for the survivor community with a Valentine’s Day “We Love Burn Survivors!” theme. Parkland Regional Burn Center welcomes the opportunity Burn Awareness Week provides to highlight burn prevention messages within their organization and their community!
FEMA Awards Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation $273K for Fire and Burn Prevention Education

Jennifer Radics-Johnson, Executive Director, Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation

In August 2016, the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation, a statewide 501(3) nonprofit organization in California, received notice that their organization was granted a $273,138.00 federal grant from FEMA through its Fire Prevention & Safety Grant program. These funds will go to support the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation’s “Firefighters in Safety Education” program, a fire and burn safety education program.

The “Firefighters in Safety Education” (FISE) program provides free fire and burn prevention education and materials to thousands of elementary school aged children throughout California, every year. The goal of the program is to bring fire and burn prevention to “each child, each year,” in schools and in the students’ native language. The FISE program is a 30-minute presentation taught by firefighters who volunteer to be trained to bring lifesaving information to their communities. Since 2001, FISE has partnered with fire departments to educate more than 160,000 students, including more than 10,000 students in the San Francisco Unified School District annually. “The Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation is so proud to partner with FEMA in our mission to reduce the number of burn injuries through prevention education,” said AARBF Executive Director, Jennifer Radics-Johnson. “Together we will continue to reach the hundreds of thousands of throughout the state of California with our fire and burn safety messages.” The award period for the grant is 2016-2017 and the funds will be utilized for a training video for the “Firefighters in Safety Education” program, an updated website to house the training video, a curriculum review of the FISE program in order to better align the program with California educational standards, innovative evaluation tools and supplemental teaching materials for teachers in the classroom.
Children under four years of age have a greater risk of burn injury than any other group of individuals. A spilled cup of coffee can cause a third degree burn to a toddler in one second. A hot iron burn can require weeks of hospitalization and leave permanent scars.

To address the challenge of preventing burn-related injuries before they happen, the Children’s Burn Foundation offers three highly successful prevention and education programs – Careful, That’s Hot!, SafetySmart Babies and L.A. Troupe SafetySmart. The programs provide practical, actionable knowledge in a format that is age-appropriate and culturally relevant. Through these programs, over 67,000 adults and children are reached annually to teach burn prevention.

As part of the Careful, That’s Hot! program, the Children’s Burn Foundation and The Grossman Burn Center at West Hills Hospital have developed a new model to teach burn prevention to parents and even toddlers by partnering with the public libraries in the Greater Los Angeles area. Our Burn Prevention Educator utilizes a built-in audience and provides a program free of charge to libraries and participating families. The Educator reads Bernie Burn, a child-friendly book about burns and burn prevention, at the library’s toddler story hour.

After the story, toddlers work with the librarian to color the Bernie Burn coloring sheets or work on other crafts related to burns. While the children are working with the librarian, our Educator presents Careful, That’s Hot!, our signature burn prevention and first aid program, to their parents. Through Careful, That’s Hot!, we reach out to parents, professionals, and others who care for small children to provide them with information about burn prevention. The program offers a Power Point presentation in English or Spanish, health fair representation and other services to educate the public. At the conclusion, each family receives their own copy of Bernie Burn along with handouts and a bath thermometer. The entire program lasts 30-45 minutes.

Children respond well to Bernie Burn because the main characters present the impact of a burn in an engaging manner that is age appropriate. Small children become more involved and accepting of the safety measures that their parents are trying to enforce. Our goal is to help reduce the incidence of child burns by encouraging parent proactivity and teamwork with their children in burn prevention. In the last six months, over 1,000 parents and children participated in the library program.

For more information about Careful, That’s Hot!, contact the Children’s Burn Foundation at 818-907-2822 or email tsorkin@childburn.org.
We have had a significant increase of accelerant-related burns this past year. As a result, we developed a plan to circulate this flyer throughout the State, especially in the rural areas. We also aired a segment on our local news. Counting the numbers for 2016, on top of the 55 admissions we had 120 seen as outpatients!! We may have had more rain making things harder to burn – waiting for it to dry is the only correct answer!!

The injuries vary greatly; some exceedingly lucky with minor burns – some not so lucky with huge burns and even death!! Many older folk burning brush and their pants leg catches fire!! The outpatients are treated by teaching daily wound care until healed but the admissions usually need multiple surgeries of debriding and skin grafting to heal.

There are really NO safety tips to using an accelerant – we just CAN’T recommend any at all. All it needs is that one time for the conditions (air, humidity, temperature and wind) to be right for a disaster. The only thing we would recommend are the ‘fire starter logs’ for contained outdoor fires in a fire-pit etc.

Unfortunately, it is usually the rural areas where burning trash and brush is common. The cities have regulations about such things and so we see few from city limits. In the country, often parents are accompanied, even helped by their children with trash barrels and brush piles, they learn from then on it is ok to do!! The vapors are invisible and they have no idea how much has settled around them and on their clothes – they can become a fire-ball!

For more information, contact Gretta Wilkinson, RN, Burn Outreach / Aftercare Programs Coordinator, Firefighter Liaison at 501-364-2195.
ABA Burn Prevention Award Winner

Congratulations to Kelsey Viega, for winning the prestigious 2017 American Burn Association Burn Prevention Award. Kelsey was nominated by several of her peers and confirmed by the ABA Burn Prevention Committee!

Thirteen years ago, Kelsey made one of the best decisions of her life when she decided to apply for a position in Medical Staff – Burns Surgery Department at Shriners Hospital for Children Northern California. She’d already been working at Shriners in Hospital Administration for almost 4 years but felt like she wasn’t doing anything that made a difference – perhaps she was missing something. So when the opportunity presented itself, she jumped at the chance to move to the Burns Division.

She immediately got involved with the Quality Improvement committee and from there, she was allowed the freedom to work on new projects that inspired her; collaborating with fire service community partners at the local Shriners Hospital for Children Northern California burn prevention program, partnering with UCDavis Medical Center and the Firefighters Burn Institute to host ABLS courses, participating as an instructor for a Youth Firesetting Academy as well as providing burn prevention and fire safety education at safety events like Fill the Boot Safety fairs and Stop, Drop and Eat Lunch, a fun event that included several local fire departments and Safe Kids Greater Sacramento – opportunities that kept coming and eventually brought her to the American Burn Association’s Burn Prevention Committee.

Since 2007, she’s participated in the ABA Burn Prevention poster contest winning several awards. She has been a member of the ABA Burn Prevention Committee since 2009 and has had the extreme pleasure of working with some amazing people including many of the ABAs Burn Prevention committee members several who have become good friends. Kelsey has learned much from her time on the committee, not only during the meetings, but also at the Burn Prevention booth where all have tried to solve the worlds’ burn prevention problems while marveling at the number Burn Prevention posters on display. In addition, she has been the editor of the ABA Burn Prevention newsletter for the last ten issues.

Kelsey’s dedication and commitment over the past decade shines through in her passion for burn prevention. This is apparent in her role as a former Board member of the Safe Kids Greater Sacramento Coalition and as advisory board member for the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation. She says, “For all those who have helped me along the way, thank you for your inspiration, encouragement and guidance!”

Join the Burn Prevention Committee!

The best way to receive the most return from your membership in the American Burn Association is to actively participate as a member of a dynamic ABA Committee!

Mission: To provide leadership in the area of burn prevention; gather and disseminate information related to burn awareness, prevention, and survival; assist in the development of burn prevention programs on the local, regional, national and international levels; and to serve as a resource to members and affiliated organizations in the field of burn prevention.

To apply: Visit http://ameriburn.org. Complete a Committee Member Application and submit it for consideration.
### 2017 ABA Burn Prevention Schedule

**Monday, March 20**
- **Burn Prevention Committee**
  - 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
  - Independence Ballroom
- **Firefighters SIG** – 12 – 5 p.m.
  - Back Bay B Ballroom
- **Epidemiology SIG** – 3 – 5 p.m.
  - Independence Ballroom
- **Burn Camp SIG** – 3 – 6 p.m.
  - Riverway
- **Federation of Burn Foundation Program** – 5 – 8 p.m.
  - Public Garden

**Tuesday, March 21**
- **Burn Prevention SIG**
  - 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
  - Independence Ballroom
- **Burn Prevention Workshop**
  - 3:30 – 5 p.m.
  - Independence Ballroom

**Wednesday, March 22**
- **Sunrise Symposium #4**
  - 6:30 – 7:45 a.m.
  - Riverway Explosive Trends in Consumer Products: Lithium Batteries and E-Cigarettes
- **Correlative III: Public Health, Epidemiology & Prevention**
  - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - Back Bay C Ballroom
- **Firefighter Course I**
  - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - Hynes Convention Center Hall B
  - IAFF Fire Ground Survival Trailer – Comprehensive Survival Skills – Imminent Danger to Personal Safety
- **Poster Session I – Public Health, Epidemiology, Prevention**
  - 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.
  - Hynes Convention Hall D
  - Abstracts #185 – 194
- **Rising from the Ashes: Cocoanut Grove Nightclub Fire**
  - 4:15 – 5:30 p.m., Constitution Ballroom

**Thursday, March 23**
- **Sunrise Symposium #23**
  - 6:30 – 7:45 a.m.
  - Gardner B
  - Prevention: What Works & What Doesn’t
- **Correlative X: Public Health, Epidemiology & Prevention**
  - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - Republic Ballroom
- **Firefighter Course II**
  - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
  - Commonwealth
  - Fire Fighter Response to Evolving Fuel Loads and Battery Fires
- **Poster Session II**
  - Public Health, Epidemiology, Prevention: 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.
  - Hynes Convention Hall D
  - Abstracts #272 – 281
- **Changing Places**
  - 4:15 – 5:30 p.m.
  - Commonwealth

**Friday, March 24**
- **Luncheon Symposium #28**
  - 12:15 – 1:45 p.m.
  - Berkeley
  - Making Burn Awareness Week Work for Your Burn Center
- **FORUM – Utilizing Legislation as a Tool for Prevention and Change**
  - 2 – 4 p.m.
  - Back Bay A Ballroom

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**BURN PREVENTION BOOTH**

The Burn Prevention booth will be a fun and exciting place to visit at this year’s ABA. **STOP, DROP and ROLL** on over to the Burn Prevention booth (#135) and take home some **PREVENTION** with you. Meet the ABA’s Burn Prevention Committee Members, spin the wheel and test your knowledge on burn prevention and learn about emerging burn injury trends! And, of course, don’t forget the **People’s Choice Award**. Cast your vote for one of the many burn prevention posters submitted for this year’s contest. **VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!**