

Off the Cuff

Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists

NANA

WWW.NEANA.ORG

Spring 2011

Officers

President

Ben Huls, CRNA

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President-Elect

Sara Theoharis, CRNA

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Vice President

Holly Chandler, CRNA

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Secretary & Treasurer

Eric Troutd, CRNA

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Ex-Officio

Julie Vaughan, CRNA

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Dennis Bless, CRNA, MS

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From the NANA President



Ben Huls, CRNA

Hello colleagues and welcome to the Spring 2011 issue of Off The Cuff. I, along with the Board of Directors, would like to express our sincerest gratitude to Julie Vaughan for serving as NANA President for the past two years. Julie's dedication to the profession and to NANA has been paramount as evidenced by NANA's accomplishments during her term, most notably the fluoroscopy legislation ruling and implementation of its use. Her leadership and past success will provide a blueprint

for me and the current NANA Board of Directors to follow over the next few years. Thank you for all you've done for NANA, Julie. At our fall open BOD meeting held in October 2010, the current BOD and officers was announced. The BOD for 2011 is as follows:

Officers:

Ben Huls – President

Sara Theoharis – President-Elect

Holly Chandler – Vice President

Eric Troutd – Secretary/Treasurer

Julie Vaughan - Ex-Officio

Board of Directors:

Amy Graham, Matt Oliver, Sean Scribner, Todd Luedeke,

Jim DeFreece and Sarah Langan

NANA
Leadership Team

Reminder
NANA Spring Meeting
April 15 – 17th
Omaha Marriott

Please refer to NANA's [website](http://www.neana.org) for pictorial directory/contact information.

I look forward to working with this group of individuals who have admirably chosen to serve NANA membership. Also serving NANA are these important CRNAs: Nancy Gondringer as Federal Political Director, Phil Powers as State Government Relations Chair, and Denise Husen as Public Relations Chair. The aforementioned BOD and staff put in a good deal of time and effort for Nebraska CRNAs and issues that potentially influence our practice. Please thank them at your next encounter for their service to NANA. Also deserving of recognition is Ron Jensen, our lobbyist. Ron has been with NANA for 20-plus years, guiding us through the legislative process from opt-out in the late 1990's to present day LB222. Our success as an association can also be attributed to the outstanding service that Ron and his staff have provided us over the years.

Last November, I along with Nancy Gondringer, attended the Fall Assembly of States in Colorado Springs. This meeting stresses the importance of state association organization, government relations, and leadership development. While at this meeting, attendees were also informed of federal legislation that could potentially affect CRNA practice – particularly ObamaCare. AANA leadership dissected the plan as it pertained to CRNAs, illustrating that implementation of

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PUBLIC RELATIONS

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PUBLICATIONS

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NANA/IPGE PROGRAM

The Institute for Post-Graduate
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BY-LAWS

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STATE GRC DIRECTOR/NANA-PAC

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LIAISON

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the plan would take time, that numerous elections would take place before the plan would be fully functional. In other words, new congressman and senators would be attempting to repeal and/or revise the plan as time passes. The AANA and NANA will be keeping a watchful eye on ObamaCare and all legislation that affects our practice. We will work to strike legislative language that restrains our practice, and to promote language that maintains our practice rights. This is, in my opinion, the AANA and NANA's greatest strength. This is why it is imperative to maintain a healthy PAC fund account. Information will be coming in some form, asking you to donate to NANA PAC.

I want to thank you in advance for contributing to NANA PAC. The PAC fund promotes relations with current and future legislators and their staffs, thereby ensuring our current and future standards of practice as Nebraska CRNAs. As labeled by past NANA leadership, consider a PAC contribution as 'Professional Liability Insurance.' Our strength in the political arena is contingent upon numerous assets. I will highlight three important factorial assets here. First is our clinical CRNA practice – high quality, safe anesthesia delivery. You the CRNA providing quality care on a daily and nightly basis. Second is our leadership – keeping a watchful eye on all matters potentially affecting our practice parameters. And third is the health of our PAC fund – allowing NANA and all Nebraska CRNAs the opportunity to maintain healthy relations with elected officials who determine legislation affecting our practice. If any part of these three factors weakens, then our current standard of practice is in jeopardy. Nebraska has high quality CRNAs, and dedicated leadership. The NANA PAC fund exists, but needs a boost to hold up its one-third of the bargain. Thank you for considering a NANA PAC fund donation when you receive notice from NANA in the near future. Your generosity is appreciated and realized by all Nebraska CRNAs!

Numerous Officers and Directors are planning to attend Mid Year Assembly, April 10-13th, in Washington D.C. This is an excellent meeting, again demonstrating the importance of government relations. I encourage you to attend if you have any interest or even any doubt in the process. You will have an opportunity to meet with Senator Nelson, Senator Johanns, and your particular U.S Congressman. You will not only be impressed with AANA political organization and influence, but will have some time to see Washington D.C. sights and attractions. Contact any board member or FPD Nancy Gondringer if you have any questions about going to Mid Year Assembly.

Our NANA Spring Meeting is set for April 15 – 17th 2011. IPGE has an excellent program agenda again this year to be at the Omaha Marriott. You should have received registration information via mail from IPGE in late January/early February. If not, you can register at www.ipge.com. There will be a BOD meeting Friday night, April 15th near the end of the evening program. If you have any questions for the BOD, or any interest on BOD activities, feel free to attend. The NANA State Business Meeting will be held during the Saturday April 16th luncheon from 1230 to 1330 again at the Omaha Marriott during the Spring Meeting. I look forward to seeing you all there as we move toward warmer spring weather.

Respectfully,
Ben Huls, CRNA

President-Elect Message

Sara Theoharis, CRNA

Greetings fellow NANA members. At the Fall BOD meeting, we made some changes concerning the BOD and officers' duties, as well as changes to our fall meeting. These past several years, we have divvied the responsibilities in keeping NANA a strong association among a few volunteer NANA members and the BOD. This allowed the officers to serve as assistants more in the various areas. We came to the conclusion, that we may have been overwhelming our new blood with the responsibilities of website management, PR, publications, etc. Therefore, we have switched many of these same roles to veteran officers who are more familiar with the content and details facing us. This way, the BOD members can serve as assistants and gradually be introduced into the responsibilities of serving as an officer. We have divided up the different roles among several people. Ex-Officio serves on the Nomination Committee and as "advisor" at the BOD meetings. The president serves as our leader, while serving as guidance counselor and overseer of all committees, especially assisting in keeping an eye on national and state issues/legislation. The president-elect will serve as program director for the fall meeting and organize vendors for both spring and fall meetings. The vice-president will now serve as website administrator. The secretary/treasurer will continue to serve in taking and distributing minutes of the meetings, as well as to review our budget and reimbursements as needed to students and BOD for their conferences and travels. Thank you to all of the BOD members, officers, and NANA member volunteers and leaders for creating such a successful and strong association for the CRNAs of Nebraska.

As you may recall, IPGE no longer wishes to host our Fall NANA meeting. Financially, it was not in its best interest, nor was it in ours. That said, the NANA BOD was faced with deciding whether to go back to putting on our own educational programs again or not. The feedback we received from members, was that they would truly miss the opportunity to gain CEU credit as well as the camaraderie in addition to staying up to date with what is occurring in other CRNA practices across the state. Due to financial responsibility, we are hosting a new venue for this fall's NANA meeting. It will remain in Lincoln, but we plan to convene at the Bryan LGH campuses, nixing the expense of staging it at a hotel. Bryan LGH will cater the meal and refreshments during breaks. Also in our attempt to reduce spending, we are asking several of our own local talents to speak to our members. Thanks to the help of Nancy Gondringer and Phil Powers, we have quite a few of the speakers already lined up, including: a lecture on the simulation center at Bryan; anesthesia oversees; both APRN board and AANA updates; and advancements in sleep apnea treatment. Don't miss the fall meeting and the opportunity to see the Bryan LGH Nurse Anesthesia program campus and new simulation center and platinates. Detailed information will of course follow.

Government Relations Committee Report

Phil Powers, CRNA, State GRC Chairman

In 1985 the Nebraska Legislature faced with numerous requests from health related professions for recognition/licensure passed LB 407 which became the Nebraska Regulation of Health Professions Act. An amendment to the act in 1988 spoke to changes in "scope of practice". It stated that the scope of practice of a regulated health profession shall be changed only when, "The present scope of practice or limitations on the scope of practice create a situation of harm or danger to the health, safety or welfare of the public and the potential for the harm is easily recognizable ...". This means that a profession proposing an expanded scope of practice must demonstrate that harm is befalling the public because the expanded scope is not being practiced. The review process for a change in scope of practice is now commonly referred to as a "407 review". Most recently, Nebraska CRNA's participated in a 407 review concerning the use of fluoroscopy.

On January 21st, LB 222, which would remove the demonstration of harm criterion from the 407 review process, had its hearing before the Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee. Senator Mike Gloor, the bill's sponsor told the Committee that application of the harm criteria is not necessary, confusing and counterproductive. Former Senator Don Wesley, the original sponsor of LB 407 in the 1985 Legislature, told the Committee that the harm criterion made sense for unlicensed professions seeking licensure but makes no sense when applied to proposals for scope expansion. Steve Wooden, CRNA, NANA Past President and a former chairman of the Nebraska Board of Health testified that he found the criterion to be a problem from both sides of the 407 review process.

Opposition testimony was given by lobbyists from the Nebraska Medical Association and the Nebraska Dental Association who called for a more complete review of the Regulation of Health Professions Act.

The bill has been held in committee in order to give those involved the interim to work on a more comprehensive bill. A letter from the Chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee, Senator Kathy Campbell, states that if no legislation results from the interim discussions LB 222 will be considered for advancement at the earliest opportunity. If LB 222 advances next year, it will be imperative for Nebraska CRNA's to show their support for the bill with their state senators. The NANA GRC Committee will be working to be sure that we have a "key contact" CRNA for each of Nebraska's 49 state senators. Please contact the GRC Committee if you would like to serve as a "key contact" and don't be surprised if we call you.

NANA Website

Holly Chandler, CRNA

Happy spring NANA members! With spring comes new growth and a new season! We are experiencing new growth as well. We will have our new NANA web site up and running in the next few weeks. Our web address will remain the same with a new fresh look and faster better links. We are very excited to be able to provide an up to date web site for our members, patients, and state. We hope to have a sign on and password access to a "members only" section in order to be able to inform and update members on current events. We also hope to eventually have CEU availability on the web site. (Very exciting!) We look forward to your feedback at the spring meeting. Please feel free to contact me if you see any errors, corrections, or especially if you have any pictures for our photo gallery of CRNA's from around the state in action. It would be much appreciated. Thanks again and see you in April!

WWW

DENNIS BLESS, CRNA, MS

Thank You for Nominating Me for
AANA Treasurer

I would appreciate your VOTE!



I will work for YOU to:

- Apply my prior experience as a banker to wisely manage and invest the AANA's resources
- Adhere to principles of fiscal conservatism while growing member services
- Explore options for additional non-dues revenue to enhance the value of AANA membership
- Ensure an appropriate supply of highly qualified CRNAs to meet the workforce needs of the future
- Support full scope of practice for CRNAs

Public Relations Committee

Denise Husen, CRNA

Hello, everyone! This is Denise Husen, I have accepted the role of the Public Relations chairman, and will do my best to serve the Nebraska Association of Nurse Anesthetists. As we all know, National Nurse Anesthetists Week was celebrated in January. I am aware of my own activities in celebrating this special week which is designed to educate the public about our fantastic profession! Activities in Nebraska City and surrounding included sending CD's and DVD's provided by the AANA to 10 radio and television stations, educating them on nurse anesthetists, and having them add this to their programming as public service announcements. I also visited with the high school with health and science classes to educate them on what our role is, in the provision of pain management, labor epidurals, intraoperative and emergency room roles. I also purchased a lunch from Subway to feed the entire hospital (all shifts) for a day. I personally am passionate on educating the public and individuals on our profession, and encourage those who show interest to shadow me as they would like.

I would also like to hear what other efforts have been undertaken during Nurse Anesthetist Week, or any other promotional activities that any of you have become involved in to help promote us! We are excellent and safe providers, and it is fantastic to introduce yourselves to patients so they know who will be with them through it all. Thank you for any submissions. Please email myself if you have any topics for inclusion in the website or to add to the Off the Cuff newsletter. Have a great spring!

Save the Date!

78th Annual Meeting

August 6-10, 2011

Boston

About the Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists is designed to update and expand the practitioner's knowledge in the medical, nursing, and sociopsychological sciences related to nurse anesthesia. This highlight of the year features cutting-edge speakers and events that are not duplicated elsewhere.

[Click Here](#) for more information.

The Nebraska ANA Spring Meeting in Omaha

April 15-17, 2011

Marriott

Omaha, Nebraska



The Institute for
Post-Graduate Education

The Importance of this Meeting to the Practicing CRNA ...

The Nebraska ANA Spring Meeting offers practicing CRNA's an opportunity to update and reinforce clinical knowledge in several important aspects of anesthesia practice. The seminar begins Friday Evening with didactic lectures focusing on the Prevention of Fires in the Operating Room, Awareness of Common Drug Errors, Managing Allergy and Anaphylaxis and Perioperative Care of the Asthmatic Patient. The Saturday morning session is devoted to clinical discussions of problems associated with the Elderly Patient, and the role of the CRNA in Plastic Surgery Procedures. The program continues with more clinical discussions concerning Bariatric Surgery, Antibiotic Prophylaxis, GERD and Aspiration, and Anesthesia for Patients with Pulmonary Disease.

On Sunday morning, the focus will shift to discussions of Ventilation Modalities, Anesthesia for Lung Surgery, Identifying EKG changes that should cause concern, and Managing Intraoperative Cardiovascular Crises.

Ample time is provided for questions and discussion

Accreditation

Approved by the AANA for 20 CE Credits. Code Number 33217, Expiration Date April 17, 2011

IPGE is accredited by the California BRN to provide continuing education seminars for Registered Professional Nurses.

Provider Number 2374. This activity meet the criteria for 20 Credits.

This program also meets the established criteria for 5 hours in Pharmacology/Therapeutics

Program Agenda

Friday PM April 15, 2011

Charles R. Barton, CRNA, MEd, MSN

1650-1700	Welcome Remarks
1700-1800	Preventing Fires in the OR
1800-1900	Identifying Common Drug Errors
1900-1915	Break -- Visit Exhibits
1915-2015	Recognizing Allergy and Anaphylaxis
2015-2115	Perioperative Management of the Asthmatic Patient
2115-2215	Discussion Period

Saturday AM April 16, 2011

Wayne Ellis, PhD, CRNA

0630-0700	Continental Breakfast
0700-0800	Anesthesia and Aging
0800-0900	Anesthesia Considerations with Alzheimer's Disease
0900-0930	Break - Visit Exhibits
0930-1030	Assessing the Cardiac Patient for Surgery
1030-1130	Non-cardiac Surgery in the Cardiac Patient

Complimentary Luncheon

1130-1230	Legislative Update
1230-1330	Nebraska ANA Business Meeting

Saturday PM April 16, 2011

Neil Roy Connelly, MD

1330-1430	Supersize Me - Obesity and Bariatric Surgery
1430-1530	Perioperative Antibiotic Prophylaxis
1530-1545	Break
1545-1645	GERD and Aspiration
1645-1745	Anesthesia in Patients with Pulmonary Disease
1745-1845	Discussion Period

Sunday AM April 17, 2011

Louis M. Guzzi, MD, FCCM

0630-0700	Continental Breakfast
0700-0800	Ventilation Modalities
0800-0900	Anesthesia for Lung Surgery
0900-0915	Break
0915-1015	EKG Changes that Cause Concern
1015-1115	Intraoperative Cardiovascular Emergencies
1115-1215	Discussion Period

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NANA members [Click here](#) before you register or go to www.ipge.com.

TUITION FEES

NANA Members	
Until April 5	\$495.00
Non NANA Members	
Until April 5	\$545.00
All Registrants	
After April 5	\$595.00
On Site	\$645.00
Student Fee	
Until April 5	\$75.00
After April 5	\$125.00

Faculty

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University of Akron, Akron, OH

Wayne Ellis, PhD, CRNA
Private Anesthesia Practice
Legal and Educational Consultant
Beckley, WV

Neil Roy Connelly, MD
Director of Anesthesiology Research
Professor of Anesthesiology
Bay State Medical Center
Tufts University School of Medicine
Boston, MA

Louis M. Guzzi, MD, FCCM
Attending in Anesthesiology
Attending in Critical Care Medicine
Florida Physicians Medical Group
The Florida Hospital, Orlando, FL

We hope to see you there!

