

MONITOR



Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists

www.virginiacrnas.com

September 2006

"Nurse Anesthetists: Providing quality Anesthesia to Virginians for over 100 years."

September 14, 15, 16 2006 FREE Leadership Conference

The Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists is excited to offer you a free conference on Leadership Development and Team Building. As the AANA strives to promote Leadership at all levels, VANA is playing its part. Every year, VANA holds a Leadership Conference, and, in the past, this conference has not attracted many members. We decided that in order to stress our commitment to developing leadership and team building skills, we would invest in our members. VANA is picking up the tab for you! VANA will cover your food, hotel and conference cost for Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the conference weekend. Friday night dinner will be a meet and greet, with a short meeting of the Board of Directors. Saturday's presentation on Leadership Development and Team Building will begin after breakfast, at 0800. The presentation will be followed by a group discussion to identify strengths and weaknesses in VANA, and to set goals for the coming year. We hope you will leave this conference with ideas on how to better motivate, inspire, lead and succeed in your organization. There is a limit – the first 25 VANA members to sign up can attend free of charge, so call now for more details! We hope to see many team leaders and team members join us as we learn how to build our leadership skills and achieve the challenging goals we face each day.

(Continuing education credit (8 hours) has been applied for through the AANA.)

Highlights of the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the AANA Cleveland, Ohio August 5-10, 2006

The annual meeting of the AANA was quite a celebration this year! I know that the location was a mystery for many; why Cleveland? Well, seventy-five years ago, the first meeting of a group of nurse anesthetists was held in Cleveland. At that meeting, the National Association of Nurse Anesthetists was formed. This was the beginning of our great professional organization, which was later renamed the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

Diane Howell and I arrived on Friday, August 4, 2006 and I was immediately surprised and pleased to see signs in the airport welcoming members of the AANA. There were banners on the streets around the convention center and a marquee advertising our presence. The city of Cleveland really went all out to make us feel welcome.

Of course, the lectures were interesting and diverse; the annual meeting always provides an opportunity to hear great speakers. The Keynote speaker this year was President Bill Clinton. Obviously, there was a lot of concern about security and we had to leave the convention center for an hour before his speech in order for the police and Secret Service to secure the building. President Clinton is an outstanding speaker and it was quite a surprise to know that he was coming to Cleveland.

The party with a purpose that was held Sunday night raised over \$15,000 for the Boy's and Girl's club in the greater Cleveland area. Live music and plenty of food and beverages were enjoyed by all.

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**ADVERTISING IN THE
MONITOR**

*Ready to Sell Products? Services?
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The *MONITOR* is the official newsletter of the Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists (VANA) mailed to over 800 VANA members residing in Virginia. Quarterly issues of the *MONITOR* are planned for the next VANA fiscal year.

GET THE SURE SELL:
Advertising in the *MONITOR* will cost only: Full page \$200, Half page \$100, 1/4 page \$50, 1/8 page \$25.

Classified ads in the *MONITOR* will cost only \$1.00 per line (approximately 36 spaces) with a minimum charge of \$5.00.

GOLD PLAN: Full page ad in the next 4 issues \$700 (12% discount!) paid in advance -- guaranteed!

DEADLINES: Please send advance payments with your camera-ready artwork/classified to the VANA office:

2231 Oak Bay Lane
Richmond, VA 23233
vanacrna@comcast.net

The deadline for the
next issue is:

October 1, 2006



2005 - 2006 VANA Board of Directors

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Publication of materials in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists

VANA Members Receive AANA Awards

Virginia CRNAs were recipients of two of AANA's highest awards at the AANA Annual Meeting on August 9, 2006. Charles M. (Chuck) Reese, CRNA, Ph.D., received the Helen Lamb Outstanding Educator Award. Louise E. Hershkowitz, CRNA, MSHA, received the Alice Magaw Outstanding Clinician Practitioner Award.

Information about these awards is provided below:

Alice Magaw Outstanding Clinician Practitioner Award

Purpose

The Clinical Anesthesia Practitioner Award was established in 1986 by the AANA Council for Public Interest in Anesthesia. This Award recognizes the accomplishments of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) involved in direct patient care, who have made an important contribution to the advancement of nurse anesthesia practice.

The Award became the Alice Magaw Outstanding Clinical Practitioner Award in 1998 to honor Alice Magaw (1860-1928), nurse anesthetist for the Mayo brothers (1893-1908). Dr. Charles H. Mayo bestowed the title "Mother of Anesthesia" on Magaw, a "peerless anesthetist" who combined open drop ether and talking soothingly to patients during the administration of the anesthetic. Magaw shared her expertise with the medical community by writing five articles, the first publications by a nurse anesthetist, with her observations on administering anesthetics and training nurses sent by leading surgeons.

Helen Lamb Outstanding Educator Award

Purpose

The Helen Lamb Outstanding Educator Award, established in 1980, is presented to a CRNA who has made a significant contribution to the education of nurse anesthetists. The award recognizes the individual's commitment to the profession of nurse anesthesia and to the advancement of educational standards that further the art and science of anesthesiology and result in high quality patient care.

The award was established to honor of Helen Lamb (1900-1979), founder and director of Barnes School of Anesthesia in St. Louis from 1929 to 1951. She chaired the AANA Education Committee from 1931 through 1939 and established the curriculum and minimum standards for schools of nurse anesthesia. She pioneered the endotracheal technique in lung surgery and performed the anesthetic for the world's first successful pneumonectomy. Mrs. Lamb served as president of the AANA from 1940 to 1942.

(Highlights of the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the AANA continued from page 1)

Since the beginning of the wellness program, AANA has been proactive in encouraging the physical, mental and spiritual health of its members. On Tuesday morning, over 100 CRNAs participated in a fitness walk. The Cleveland police department provided escorts and stopped traffic for the participants. What a way to start the day! Patti Bright was able to speak at the Regional break-out on the topic of the Rock-n-Roll Half Marathon. She encouraged the members from other states to get involved by sending donations to PIN. Diane Howell gave a great update on the state and let everyone know about the leadership initiative and Fall Meeting at Wintergreen. The Annual Banquet was well attended by members from Virginia. We were so proud of Louise Herskowitz and Charles Reese, who were recognized for their outstanding professional contributions! A great time was had by all.

Well, to put the "icing on the cake", we traveled back to Richmond on Thursday. You can imagine our surprise when we turned on the TV that morning and learned of the arrests in Great Britain, which foiled the plot to blow up planes. After repacking our suitcases, we headed for the airport, which was on "orange" alert and tight security. I must say that I felt very confident that we would arrive home safely and it was wonderful to see Detective Charles Howell of the Richmond Police Department waiting for us in the airport.

The meeting was great, but I was glad to be home.

Cathy A. Harrison

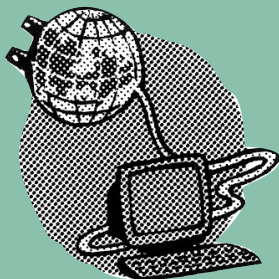
Past President, VANA

What's New On the Web

www.virginiacrnas.com

Visit our website,
where you will find
the following information:

- ◆ Latest News
- ◆ Calendar of Events
- ◆ Contacts for
Board of Directors
- ◆ Legislative Information
and Contacts
- ◆ Important Links
- ◆ VANA CE Sponsored
Events
- ◆ Members Only Section
- ◆ And more!



President's Message

by Diane Howell

As summer is winding down, there are two topics I would like you to consider. The first topic involves the efforts by the American Medical Association to limit the ability of licensed healthcare professionals to deliver care to millions of patients and the second topic involves the American Society of Anesthesiologists suggesting "the need to expose and counter nurse doctoral programs misrepresentation".

The AMA, together with other physician groups, has formed the Scope of Practice Partnership (SOPP), which is studying the qualifications and work of allied health professionals in rural and underserved areas. The SOPP plans to fund studies that will look at whether allied health professionals really fill healthcare voids in rural and underserved areas, and will attempt to examine the education and training of allied health professionals so that they have a "point of comparison" for the legislators. In response to this, the newly formed Coalition for Patient's Rights is urging all healthcare professionals to work together to counter the AMA's actions and ensure that the growing health needs of the American people continue to be met with quality healthcare providers of the patients choice. The coalition represents more than 3 million healthcare professionals, who are today providing safe, effective and affordable services to a variety of patients. The coalition states the efforts of the AMA and the physician groups it has recruited are "unnecessary actions that will impede, rather than enhance, patient access to quality care" and calls on members of the Scope of Practice Partnership to "cease their divisive efforts and, instead, work with us to advance the health and well being of our patients. It is inappropriate for physician organizations to advise consumers, legislators, regulators, policy makers or payers regarding the scope of practice of licensed healthcare professionals whose practice is authorized in statutes other than medical practice acts". The coalition goes on to state that the assumption of physician organizations require them to determine what is best for other licensed healthcare professionals is an "outdated line of thinking" that certainly does not serve today's patient population demographics.

The AMA adopted resolution 814, titled "Limited Licensure Health Care Provider Training and Certification standards, in which it declares itself appropriate to study the qualifications, education, academic requirements, licensure, ethical standards and disciplinary processes of the "limited" licensure healthcare providers. I find the tone contemptuous and demeaning, and believe we need to watch closely the AMA and the Scope of Practice Partnership, and support the efforts of the Coalition for Patient's Rights. As nurses, we have always been the best advocates for patient care and safety, and this is an ideal opportunity to get involved in maintaining and improving access of our patients to a wide variety of healthcare professionals who provide affordable, safe and effective healthcare to millions of patients. For more information on the Coalition for Patients Rights, please visit www.patientsrightsnow.org

Next, for the many certified nurse anesthetists who are planning for or currently enrolled in, a doctoral program of any type, be advised that the American Society of Anesthesiologists has issued a statement to the AMA House of Delegates about the "need to expose and counter nurse doctoral program misrepresentation". The resolution claims that professional groups other than medical doctors and doctors of osteopathy claiming to be "doctors" in clinical settings will cause injury, confusion, and a breakdown of quality medical care. This policy proposed to the AMA resolves that the organization might prosecute NPs with doctorates that misrepresent themselves as physicians in clinical settings or educational institutions that mislead program applicants about their future scope of practice. To protect the term "doctor", the organization includes other plans such as pursuing legislative, regulatory and legal actions through the Scope of Practice Partnership to counter misrepresentation by nurse doctoral programs. The AMA House of Delegates was scheduled to discuss this at its annual meeting in June; more information will follow.

**VANA
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234, 235, 236, 237

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222, 223, 220, 221, 226, 227

You live in District II

Director: Gloria Black, CRNA
geesquared@earthlink.net

If your zip code begins with: 228,
229, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244,
245, 246

You live in District 3 & 4

Director: Bonnie Bowman, CRNA
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If your zip code begins with: 224,
225, 230, 231, 232, 238

You live in District 5

Director: Renee Greenfield, CRNA
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District Reports

District I Report

by Linda Ferro, CRNA District Director

On Tuesday evening, July 11, Baxter sponsored a dinner meeting at the Dockside Inn in Virginia Beach. Our Guests were Cheryl Ruff, CRNA and Sue Roper, RN. They did a presentation of their book, "Ruff's War: A Navy Nurse on the Frontline in Iraq." Their lecture described the work and living conditions of military CRNA's who served on the frontline in Iraq at the beginning of the war.

We had 30 people attend this program.

A special thanks to Traci Olsen, from Baxter, Sue Roper, and Cheryl Ruff.

Mark Your Calendar!!!

District 5 of the
Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists
2007 Winter Workshop
Saturday, February 17, 2007

7:15 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Holiday Inn Select Richmond - Koger Center South

Interested in Volunteering or Speaking?

Contact the VANA Office for details.

804-754-4122 or vanacrna@comcast.net

VANA 2006

Fall Conference

October 20-22, 2006

Go to www.virginiacrnas.com
for more information

Wintergreen Resort
COME UP FOR SOME AIR

Call for Presentations for the 2007 District 5 Winter Workshop

2007 District 5 Winter Workshop

February 17, 2007

Call for Presentations

Deadline, November 1, 2006

Please submit the following information:

Speaker(s): Name and Credentials _____
Address _____
Phone # _____
Fax # _____
E-mail Address _____

Title and Length of Presentation _____

Brief Description of Presentation _____

Learning Objectives _____

Submit Proposals to the VANA office at:
Virginia Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Attn: Robin Morrison
2231 Oak Bay Lane
Richmond, VA 23233
Ph 804-754-4122

Proposals will be reviewed and notification of acceptance will be given in early November.

New Student Representative

It's that time of year when leadership changes hands, and I am happy to introduce our newest student leader, Scott Hawkes. Scott is currently enrolled in the Nurse Anesthesia program at Old Dominion University, and was chosen to represent the students of the state of Virginia – congratulations! Scott is a nationally registered paramedic with an Associate's degree in Nursing and a Bachelor of Science degree in Clinical Management and Leadership. VANA is excited to welcome him as he brings the voices of Virginia students to the table. Welcome, Scott!

I also want to thank our student representative of the previous year, Gina Corbett. Gina is currently enrolled in the Nurse Anesthesia program at Virginia Commonwealth University and VANA appreciates her service over the past year. Gina participated in the Fall Assembly of States in Illinois, Lobby Day here in Richmond, Spring Assembly in D.C., and all the Executive Board of Directors meetings. We appreciate your time and commitment and wish you the best of luck in your final months of study!

Thank you to VANA members:

Dear VANA members and colleagues,

While the outcome of the election for AANA President-Elect was not what I had hoped it would be, I do want to thank all of you for your personal, professional and financial support for my campaign. Your support and encouragement have made it possible for me to see national office and to serve you and other AANA members in leadership positions over the years.

It has always been an important part of my professional life to serve VANA and to share many important experiences with many of you. I hope and expect to continue as an active member both of VANA and AANA and look forward to sharing many more challenges!

With great appreciation,

Louise Hershkowitz

Fall Conference

by Stephen Wereszynski

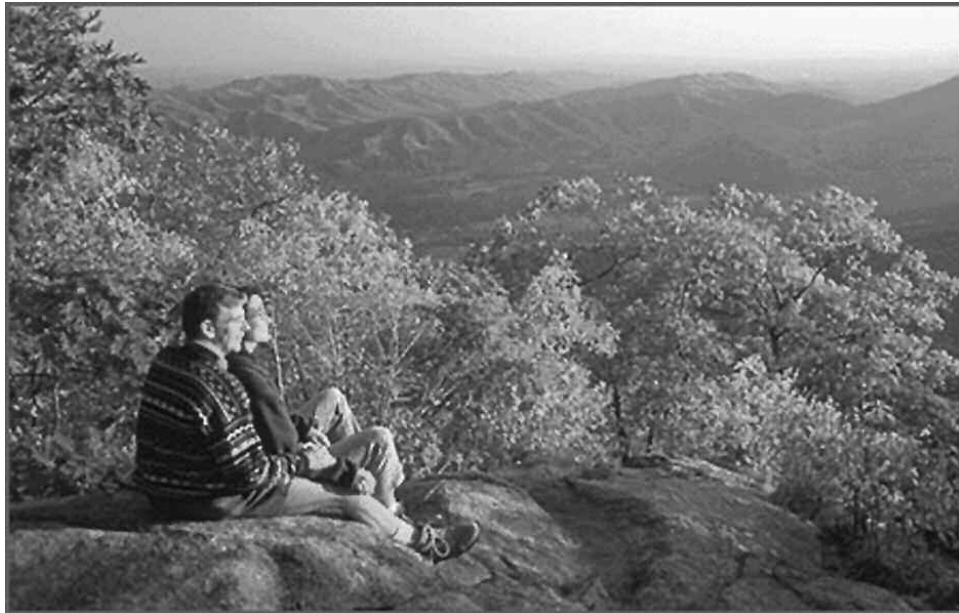
The VANA Fall Conference is coming! Mark your calendars now for the weekend of Oct 21-22 . Our Fall Conference will take place at Wintergreen Resort in Wintergreen, VA. This year's theme is "Come Up For Some Air". The resort is awesome and the leaves may still be changing. Our program is pending approval for 12 CEUs. Speakers included Diane Howell, CRNA, VANA President, Dr Bruce Spiess, Professor and Vice-Chairman of Anesthesiology, Chief of Cardiothoracic Anesthesia, Julie Lowery, Staff CRNA/Clinical Instructor at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill, Dean Mazurek, Independent anesthesia contractor and Clinical Specialist for Aspect Medical Systems, LTC Greg Nezat, LTC (retired) Steve E. DiChiari, Staff Nurse Anesthetist, Sentara Careplex Hospital, and a presentation by students from each of the three CRNA programs. The list of topics and program can be found on our VANA website, www.virigniacrnas.com . This is a great program and we are excited to be involved in it. It's a great time to relax with friends, enjoy the tremendous views, attend your annual association meeting, and get CEUs too. Make your room reservations early! If you have not yet received your program registration form, or simply can't find it, please refer to the VANA web site. We look forward to seeing you there!

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Wintergreen Resort October 21-22, 2006

A great place to bring your whole family!