

WWW.PANA.ORG

## President's Message

Michael Kinslow, CRNA, President

As I sign off with my last article for the Tidings as your President, it is with deep sadness that I must report on the loss of one of the greatest PANA Past Presidents, ever to serve. I have mentioned Susan (Humes) Taylor, CRNA many times throughout my term, because she was a great supporter and mentor for me. Shortly after I wrote the last article, she passed on after a valiant fight with cancer. Sue was one of the most charismatic and influential CRNA's to ever serve our association, and she will be missed because of her wonderful sense of humor as well. Many CRNA's who knew her attended the memorial service in June. It was just awe inspiring, beautiful, and so much like Sue herself...full of wit. In Susan's honor, the PANA has made a memorial contribution for her to the AANA Foundation Friends for Life, at the AANA Annual Meeting in Cleveland. A crystal clear plaque with her name on it will reside in the expansive lobby of the AANA Headquarters in Chicago on the AANA Foundation walls. She will be missed and never forgotten.

The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary AANA Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio was a huge success, and was well attended by your PANA board, CRNA's, and SRNA's alike. The speech by President Clinton was exceptional as expected. At this point, I must acknowledge some PANA milestones which occurred during the week. Congratulations to John O'Donnell, CRNA are in order for being the distinguished recipient of the AANA Program Director of the Year award! John has done an outstanding job for the University of Pittsburgh Nurse Anesthesia



Program, and we are all very proud of this accomplishment. Bette Wildgust, CRNA (Program Director, Villanova) should be acknowledged for her hard work on the AANA Regional Alignment task force over the past 3 years. Bette has also just become a Friend for Life, and has always shown tremendous commitment to the profession of Nurse Anesthesia. Please congratulate these individuals when you see them! In addition, our beloved state association was nicely awarded a plaque for being one of the top three states for the most contributions to the AANA Foundation this year.

This year will mark a change in Student Scholarships awarded throughout this State of many Nurse Anesthesia Programs. The board has decided to award a \$1,000 Scholarship to each school in the State in order to be more reflective of our mission statement. The Program Director will receive some guidelines, but will ultimately choose the neediest, worthy, native Pennsylvanian SRNA in each program, respectively.

As my term draws near completion, I must sincerely thank all of the people who helped to keep me going, and they are many indeed...way too many to mention each individually, but you know who you are and I am grateful to have been able to serve the PANA membership, because of you and your support. One special mention must go to our Treasurer, Margie Darbut, CRNA. Margie probably has had to do more tedious work and devote more time than any other position by far. So thank you Margie for your steadfast commitment and dedication it is a job well done.



## Legislator Spotlight Senator Rob Wonderling



Pennsylvania State Senator Rob Wonderling was elected to his first term in the Pennsylvania Senate in November 2002. As a husband and father of three children, a business executive, a government official, and a community leader, Rob understands the issues that are most important to our communities and families in the 24th District.

He is committed to promoting economic development and job creation, maintaining access to high quality health care services,

bringing equitable funding to our public education system, providing our firefighters with the equipment they need to respond to emergencies, and reducing the tax burden on our property owners.

Rob is Chairman of the Communications and Technology Committee, and is a member of the Aging and Youth, Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure, Finance, and Local Government Committees. As Chairman of the Communications and Technology Committee, Rob is working to establish the proper course for continued economic growth and development for all Pennsylvanians in the 21st century. Committee efforts include, introducing legislation to repeal the gross receipts tax on cell phones, spearheading a cyber security initiative to protect Pennsylvanians from identity theft, and creating the Medical Safety Automation Fund, which provides matching grants up to \$1 million for health care providers to digitize records in an effort to reduce healthcare costs and eliminate medical errors.

Rob also formed the Pennsylvania Technology in Healthcare Working Group, which brings together state leaders in academia, technology, healthcare, and government for the purpose of finding ways in which the Commonwealth can better integrate and promote the use of technology in healthcare.

In addition to his Senate committee assignments, Rob serves on the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, the Children's Trust Fund Board, the Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee, and the Majority Policy Committee.

Rob received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Allegheny College and a Master's degree in Government Administration from the University of Pennsylvania. Rob lives in Lower Salford Township with his wife Kristin and their sons Sam, Mark, and Ben. He and his family are members at the Cornerstone Church of Skippack. He is also a member of the Boulder Valley Gun Club and the National Rifle Association.

## Advertise in Tidings

With a circulation of over 2,500, advertising in *Tidings* is your best way of reaching nurse anesthetists, associate student anesthetists, health committees and health care organizations.

	1 Time	2 Times	4 Times
Half Page	\$305	\$550	\$1,040
Quarter Page	\$185	\$340	\$640
Business Card	N/A	\$100	\$160

Classified Ads \$7 per line

For more information, contact PANA at the address below

## Publishing Schedule and Deadlines

*Tidings* is published quarterly in the following months: January, April, July and October.

Deadlines for submission of articles or advertising is the first business day of the following months: December, March, June and September.

## Need to talk to someone?

Chemical Dependency or other issues affecting your practice?

PANA Peer Assistance Advisor  
Art Zwerling, MS, MSN, CRNA, FAAPM  
Home: 215-635-0183 (Anesthetists In Recovery)  
Work: 215-728-5714  
Cell: 215-872-6821  
a.to.z@comcast.net

AANA Peer Assistance WebPages on:  
<http://www.aana.com>  
Hotline - 800-654-5167



## TIDINGS

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PANA Publications Julie Antidormi, CRNA

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# CAPITOL INSIGHTS

## Angie Mellott Armbrust, Winter Group

### Session Update

The legislature returns to session this fall for a limited number of days before the end of session. The House of Representatives returns to Harrisburg on September 19<sup>th</sup> and the Senate on September 25<sup>th</sup>. The House is scheduled for approximately 16 session days between September and November, and the Senate is only scheduled for 10 session days thus far. Since the Senate majority leader and President Pro Tempore both lost their reelection bids, it's very likely that the Senate will come to Harrisburg for a limited number of days, push through their fall agenda in that time, and then head home. This means that there are a limited number of session days to accomplish legislative goals before the end of this session. As a reminder, each session runs for two years. We are currently in the 2005-06 session. At the end of this session (which wraps up right by the end of November) all bills that have not been passed by both chambers and signed by the Governor are dead and must be reintroduced next session, which begins in January 2007.

### Legislation of Interest

**HB 1066 and SB 452**—our scope of practice bills currently remain in the House Professional Licensure Committee and the Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure Committee. The Winter Group continues to advocate for movement on both of these bills.

**HB 2883**, sponsored by Representative Merle Phillips—amends the Insurance Payment to Registered Nurse Law, further providing for coverage. This bill attempts to create parity in insurance reim-

bursements made to CRNAs and anesthesiologists. The Winter Group has met with Representative Nicholas Micozzie, Chairman of the House Insurance Committee, to discuss moving this bill out of his committee and to the floor for a vote as soon as the legislature returns. Representative Micozzie promised to look at the bill and consider moving it from his committee when session resumes. The Winter Group will keep the PANA Board posted on any movement of this legislation.

The House Insurance Committee is in the process of holding six meetings across the state to discuss a Universal Health Care Plan for Pennsylvania. Insurance Committee Chairman Micozzie noted that Massachusetts passed legislation expanding healthcare, and he and Insurance Committee Minority Chairman DeLuca intend to introduce a proposal based on Massachusetts' plan. They both feel that, while Pennsylvania cannot adopt the specifics of the Massachusetts plan, it can provide a framework to work within. The Winter Group will continue to monitor these discussions.

### State Board Updates

The Winter Group continues its monthly monitoring of The State Boards of Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine, and Nursing. We attend these meetings monthly on PANA's behalf and alert your Executive Board when an issue impacting PANA comes before any of these Boards.

The State Board of Nursing is still drafting language for a regulation dealing with conscious sedation. The Board will send draft regulation language to all interested parties once it has a draft in place. The PANA Board will make comments and suggestions to the draft language at that time.

### Please Contact Your Legislator

As always, The Winter Group would like to encourage every CRNA in Pennsylvania to look up his or her Representative and Senator and to call, email, or make an appointment to see them. Legislators value input from their constituents. We simply ask that you chat with your legislators about your profession, answer any questions that they might have about your work, and ask them to consider being a cosponsor to HB 1066 or SB 452. Talking points including information on both of these bills are available in the members section of the PANA website ([www.pana.org](http://www.pana.org)).

Also, if you have not yet done so, please sign up for *Flash Emails* from the PANA Webmaster Michael Loomis (go to [www.pana.org](http://www.pana.org) to sign up and make sure that PANA has your updated email address). *Flash Emails* are a valuable tool for the PANA to use to contact its membership when a vitally important issue arises.

## A PITTSBURGH TRADITION!!!

Mark your calendars for the 33rd Annual Pittsburgh Symposium for Nurse Anesthetists, to be held on Saturday, February 17, 2007. The Symposium will be held at Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. As in the past, this all-day seminar will be approved by the AANA with an expected 10-11 CE credits.

The registration form will be available on-line at [www.pana.org](http://www.pana.org) in January, 2007. For more information, contact Mary Jo Lynch at 412-641-4228 or [mlynch@magee.edu](mailto:mlynch@magee.edu).

# STUDENT VOICE

By Bruce Kilpatrick, RN, BSN, PANA Student Representative

*“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.”*  
- John F. Kennedy

## **PANAs Fall Symposium.....**

Mark your calendars to attend this year's Fall Symposium, October 6-8, 2006, located in Gettysburg, PA, hosted at the Gettysburg Hotel. Come out and meet newly elected PANA Board of Directors and Committee delegate members! Those financially savvy PANA members interested in perusing the 2007 budget, the treasurer will present the fiscal year financial report. The SRNA scholarship awards will be distributed at the financial meeting, congratulations to those individual winners!! I know you'll enjoy the outstanding speaker lineup, so don't miss out, register today!

## **Many Thanks to our “Friends for Life” members!!!!**

**Mrs. Bette Wildgust**, CRNA, MS, MSN, Villanova University's Nurse Anesthesia program director and resent Friends for Life member. What is Friends for Life? Members make a planned gift during their life or through their estate. Friends for Life members leave a legacy for themselves to ensure a bright future for all CRNAs.

Friends for Life donors are recognized with beautifully carved and engraved pieces of crystal artwork that is on permanent display in the lobby of the AANA building. Friends for Life donors embrace the Foundation mission of advancing nurse anesthesia through education and research and thus envision the need for future endowment.

## **Congratulations Award Winners.....**

**Mr. John O'Donnell**, CRNA, MSN, Program Director for University of Pittsburgh School of Nurse Anesthesia was awarded AANAs Program Director of the year. To be nominated and chosen among his peers is an outstanding accomplishment! “He is an outstanding teacher, scholar and friend” stated former student Kelly Wiltse, CRNA.

The Program Director of the Year Award, established in 1991, is presented to a CRNA who has made a significant contribution as a program director to the educational process of student nurse anesthetists. This Award recognizes the commitment of individuals 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.

**Mrs. Tara Ray**, SRNA, a senior student at the Villanova University/Crozer-Chester Medical Center School of Nurse Anesthesia is the recipient of the 2006 Student Excellence in Education Award. Mrs. Ray's “Share your secrets—Teach!” was created to energize CRNAs

and related health care professionals to become instructors and share their expertise and knowledge with student nurse anesthetists.

Mrs. Ray designed her program in two phases: the first phase includes an assessment of barriers to teaching, presentations to prospective educators to alert them to the need for more teachers, and development of teaching plans based on their topic of interest; the second phase involves overcoming the identified barriers and implementing the new didactic and clinical instruction. Ray's plan integrates ongoing evaluations, plus publicity in the community, keeping in view the goal of increasing awareness of the shortage of educators in the specialty and increasing their numbers.

Farewell, as your student representative, my dear friends....

As another year begins  
so another one must end  
and this has been my year  
for making dear new friends and learning  
anesthetic trends

I hope that I have helped  
as you have all helped me  
to realize there's far much more work  
to be done in this world, my dear anesthetist friends

to the good old PANA board members  
who without their wisdom we would be doomed  
so I raise a glass of cheer to you from all your anesthetist friends

and as I say goodbye to the old  
and hello to the new  
I thank my lucky stars  
for meeting all of you

Best of luck with your endeavors!

CRNA wanted, part time at Ambulatory Surgical Center in Greensburg, PA. Will negotiate salary and benefits. Excellent working environment. Please call @ 724-552-0068 and ask for Steve or Dr. Beyer.

## In Memorium

Please Remember a Special Colleague, Susan Taylor, in Your Hearts

We all know as healthcare providers, that in spite of tremendous effort, life cannot always be maintained. Our dear friend, and PANA Past President, Susan Taylor, died after a spirited battle with cancer. She was extremely active in the PANA both on a district level and state level. She was elected to the state offices of Trustee, Secretary and Vice President before being elected to the office of President in 2001. During her tenures, Sue was a true watchdog of our profession and always fought hard for the rights of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists to practice in the state of Pennsylvania. As chairman of the Practice Committee, Sue was the PANA representative member of Medicare's Anesthesia Advisory Committee. Sue could often be seen in Harrisburg attending meetings of the State Board of Nursing, the State Board of Medicine and the Department of Health.

Throughout her life, Sue was extremely vigorous and she enjoyed various activities, including golfing, swimming and biking. She was a lifelong member of Market Square Presbyterian Church, where she served as a deacon and trustee and was currently an elder. She served as chairwoman for the 'Doorway to the Future' campaign and also participated in several mission trips to Central America.

Two services were held in Sue's memory on Saturday, June 24, 2006. A Catholic Mass at St. Peters Church in Elizabethtown, with Father David Danneker celebrating. At 11:00 a.m. a memorial service honored Susan's life was at Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg with Reverend James Brown commemorating her life. Please Remember a Special Colleague, Susan Taylor, in Your Hearts.

### A SINCERE THANK YOU:

We would like to thank the members who sent us emails, cards and flowers. We especially would like to thank those good friends that loved and worked with Sue, who drove from the Allentown area, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia to attend one of her memorial services.

Sue Taylor's Family,  
Tom and Lauren

Condolences also are extended to the families of Patricia Zanilla, St. Francis School of Anesthesia, July 17, 2006, and Estelle Walker, a 1968 anesthesia graduate.

## Meet Your Board

Bettina Dixon, CRNA, MSN



I am Bettina Dixon, CRNA, MSN and was elected Trustee on the PANA Board fall of 2005. I have been serving as Program Chair and enjoy the professional activities of the board.

I obtained my BSN from Duquesne University and my nurse anesthesia certificate from the University Health Center of Pittsburgh School of Anesthesia for Nurses. I began my clinical career at UPMC Montefiore Hospital Department of Anesthesia before my full time academic appointment at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Nurse Anesthesia Program. Along the way I obtained my MSN and now I am enrolled in doctoral studies. I love teaching and watching students learn and mature; it is the most gratifying piece of all my responsibilities. I am delighted to have received several teaching honors including the Didactic Instructor of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists in 2000 and Dean's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2003. I am devoted to Human Simulation education that our program has been structuring for 10 years and enthusiastic to be participating in related research projects.

On a personal note I am grateful to have a terrific family. They are always loving and supportive of my personal and professional endeavors.

I thank all those who were confident in my abilities and voted for me. I hope to properly represent the nurse anesthetists and students of Pennsylvania during my obligation as Trustee on the Board.

## Government Affairs Events

**PANA Lobby Day: January 24, 2006**

Perhaps the most important PANA Government Affairs Event of the year. Please plan to take a day off and help the PANA lobby for your profession in Harrisburg. The Winter Group, our Government Affairs Firm, manages all aspects of this important event. Even if you feel uncomfortable at the start of the day, you will come away with the ability to approach your legislators and discuss those issues important to you.



## Full-Time CRNAs Wanted in the capital of Tallahassee, Florida!

Anesthesiology Associates of Tallahassee located only 45 minutes from the beaches of the Gulf is in search of full-time CRNAs to join a practice of 25 physicians and 32 CRNAs. Specializes in all aspects of anesthesia. Competitive base salary 130K - 150K; 30K sign-on bonus; 5 weeks vacation, paid holidays, overtime available but not necessary; flexible schedules; Call pay differential; 3K for CME; Relocation expenses, AANA dues, health, life, disability all paid; 401K; no state taxes. Call Aaron Love (850) 385-0144. Email: [alove@shcr.com](mailto:alove@shcr.com) .

## Mark Your Calendars!

Fall Symposium and business Meeting –  
October 6-8, 2006  
Gettysburg Hotel, Gettysburg, PA

Fall Assembly of States – November 10-12,  
2006  
Grand America Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah

Spring Symposium – April 13-15, 2007  
Hotel Hershey, Hershey, PA

For more information or to send registrations: PANA, 234 N. Third Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101- Voice (800) 495-PANA • Fax 717-909-9563



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