

WWW.PANA.ORG

Forming Relationships

By Joan Joyce Carl, CRNA, President



I sometimes have difficulty sitting down to write about all of the things in PANA that have happened in the last two months. Luckily for both of us this message has to be kept brief in order to accommodate all the other articles that are just as important.

I want to thank every single CRNA who participated in any way to celebrate Nurse Anesthetist Week--all the people who take the time and effort to do the very necessary business of promoting their profession. I had the great honor of accepting the Governor's proclamation and being photographed with him, but many others have also formed and nourished equally important relationships with their local representatives, administrators and, most importantly, the public. I received many newspaper articles and photos of CRNAs taking time to do their duty to their profession, and also to educate our consumers.

PANA continues to monitor all the Boards. The State Board of Nursing has, through a subcommittee, decided it necessary to explore the definition of nursing to see if it needs to be revised. PANA does not feel the overwhelming need to open this issue. However, if Nursing persists, the PANA has offered some suggestions to simplify the definition of Advance Practice Nurse. The key is to always remember that simplicity takes a lot of the ambiguity out of regulations. In addition, this doesn't offer another group any leeway in interpreting for themselves what it should say. This is why we feel uneasy about opening this issue in the first place.

Finally, later this month meetings are scheduled with the Insurance Commissioner, Department of Health, Senate Professional Licensure Committee, and IRRC, and revisiting Workmen's Comp. We are taking every available opportunity to overcome the recurring roadblocks in our profession. Thanks again for all your help and support.



Upcoming Events

APN LOBBY DAY
April 14, 2004

MIDYEAR ASSEMBLY
May 1-4, 2004

PLEASE JOIN US!

A Celebration of Pennsylvania CRNAs

On January 28, 2004, there was a celebration of Pennsylvania Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists at PinnacleHealth System in Harrisburg, PA. Opening ceremony began with the North Side Elementary Sixth Grade Choral. The choral group ensemble, under the direction of Jennifer Cather, Vocal Director, performed numerous songs, including Commonwealth Anthem Pennsylvania. The PANA president, Joan Joyce Carl, had the opening remarks on the spirit of commitment. The Managing Director of Public Affairs Management, Mark Singel, had the legislative introductions. Both the Honorable Hal Mowery (31st district) of the Senate Resolution and the Honorable Patricia Vance (28th district) of the House Resolution spoke briefly about their appreciation of our commitment, contributions and quality of care given to this Commonwealth by Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists. There were also remarks from PinnacleHealth, Roger Longenderfer, M.D., President and CEO of PinnacleHealth and Wanda Wilson, Region VI Director of the AANA. Finally, a reception was given for the CRNAs and immediately followed in the Beryl Clements Brown Board Room. The Honorable Edward G. Rendell, Governor of Pennsylvania, gave the Governors Proclamation proclaiming Pennsylvania's Celebration of National Nurse Anesthetists Week (January 25-31, 2004).



Looking For a Few Good People

by Joan Zomchick-Martin, CRNA

It's that time of year again....**Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetist's (PANA) Board elections!** Executive positions that are available for the 2004-2005 term are: President-Elect, Vice President and Secretary. As a reminder, candidates for executive office must have served on a previous PANA Board for a minimum of two years.

Trustees will be selected from Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4. This is a great introductory position to become familiar with PANA and its vital function for CRNA's in Pennsylvania. A training seminar will be provided for all new trustees.

Please submit all names and background information to the PANA office no later than May 8, 2004. All candidates' status must be active in order to be considered. Please feel free to contact me or any other board member for additional information. Thanks and I look forward to receiving the nominations.

Senator Spector Receives CRNA Support

by Christine Allen-Sanders CRNA

This past November Senator Spector's reelection campaign, from Washington, DC, asked if some Pa. CRNAs could sponsor a fund raiser for the Senator in December. After contacting AANA, DC and with their assistance, a Holiday Reception was held December 20, 2003, from 6 PM to 7:30 PM at the Park Hyatt, Philadelphia, Pa. Senator Spector was the recipient of AANA's National Health Leadership Award in 2001.

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

DELAWARE ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS Presents



**DELPHOS E. PRICE, Jr.,
CRNA, MSN
For
REGION SIX
DIRECTOR**

- ◆ The Student Nurse Anesthetists, "They have been and will be OUR FUTURE!"
- ◆ The Opt-Out, currently at TWELVE States, "What will it take to...?"
- ◆ The Anesthesiologist Assistants! "How far will they go?"

I would appreciate your support and vote for Region Six Director.

Thank you ! Delphos E. Price, Jr., CRNA, MSN



Delsleeper@aol.com

Chemical Dependency? Need to talk to someone?

PANA Chemical Dependency Contact Person

Art Zwerling, CRNA, MS

Home: 215-635-0183

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Pager: 215-998-1241



TIDINGS

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PANA Publications Susan Clark, CRNA

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FROM THE CAPITOL

ANGIE MELLOTT, PUBLIC AFFAIRS MANAGEMENT

Regulatory Update

Public Affairs Management has been attending the monthly meetings of the State Board of Medicine, State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, State Board of Nursing, and State Board of Dentistry to keep up with their regulatory and legislative initiatives. We update the Executive Board as these meetings happen. The following is a summary of the items most relevant to PANA.

Delegation of Medical Services

The State Board of Medicine's delegation of medical services regulation was published in the *PA Bulletin* in its final form on January 2, 2004. It is effective as of the date it was published. The Board routinely received inquiries about whether a particular delegation of medical services is appropriate. In an effort to be responsive to the regulated community and to provide a framework that places patient safety and welfare at the forefront of the physician's decision making process, the Board determined to codify basic criteria under which a physician may delegate the performance of medical services to nonphysicians. "Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit services and acts rendered by a qualified physician assistant, technician or other allied medical person if such services and acts are rendered under the supervision, direction or control of a licensed physician." The proposed rulemaking adds a section that establishes general criteria under which a physician may exercise professional judgment in making the decision to delegate medical services. The State Board of Osteopathic Medicine published a delegation of medical service proposed rulemaking in the *PA Bulletin* on January 2, 2004 that was basically identical to the Board of Medicine's regulation. PANA submitted a letter to the Board outlining their opposition to the regulation. PANA's comments were the only comments received. The general consensus on the Osteopathic Board is to pass the same regulation as the Medical Board for the sake of consistency.

Definition of Nursing

The State Board of Nursing is looking at updating the definition of nursing. The legislative initiative entitled "definition of professional nursing" was approved by the Board at its March 20-21, 2003, meeting, and was submitted to the Department of State's Deputy Chief Counsel Joyce McKeever on May 21, 2003. It is currently under review by the Department. The current language of the Professional Nursing Law defines the practice of professional nursing in part as "executing medical regimens as prescribed by a licensed physician or dentist." The proposed change would clearly authorize registered nurses to accept and execute medical regimens as prescribed by all licensed or certified practitioners who are authorized by law to issue orders for medical and therapeutic measures. The intent is to recognize that other practitioners (like CRNPs, PAs, podiatrists, and optometrists) are authorized by law or regulation to prescribe or order medical regimens in some capacity and that the nurse may execute those orders. The Board did not solicit, discuss or include any further definition of advanced practice nursing as part of this initiative. We are continuing to monitor this issue and will submit a letter with recommendations if we feel it is needed.

Dental Regulations

PANA submitted comments on the State Board of Dentistry's proposed rulemaking making changes to Subchapter E. Administration of General Anesthesia, Deep Sedation, Conscious Sedation and Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Analgesia. PANA recommended that the Board model compliance in accordance with the American Dental Association (ADA) as in most other states and remove requirements for draft rules which require CRNAs to be "under the direct on-premises supervision" of the dentist, who shall assume "full responsibility" for the duties performed by the CRNA.

SB 580

We continue to push for the passage of our scope of practice bill for CRNAs. We at Public Affairs Management have been meeting with legislators and staffers to gather support and gauge the opposition. We are looking for a sponsor to introduce the same legislation in the House. PANA President Joan Carl was recently in Harrisburg and met with the Deputy Secretary for Workforce Development at the Department of Labor and Industry, the Secretary at the Department of Public Welfare, officials from the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania, and the new Director of the House Professional Licensure Committee. We discussed SB 580 and our efforts to clearly define CRNA scope of practice. Overall, we feel that we are on track and gathering the support that is needed to move SB 580 out of the Senate Consumer Protection and Licensure Committee.

Legislative Activity

HB 1721—Representative Mary Ann Dailey—Amends the Professional Nursing Law establishing the Nurses Health Program; and making an appropriation; the bill defines "Clinical Nurse Specialist" (CNS) and allows certain individuals to assume the title. *Remains in the House Professional Licensure Committee.* An amendment was added that requires a Master of Science in Nursing and that would "grandfather" in current Clinical Nurse Specialists. There is a letter of support on the PSNA website that all nurses and consumers are asked to send to their legislators.

HB 1722—Representative Mary Ann Dailey—Amends the Professional Nursing Law establishing the Nurses Health Program; and making an appropriation; The bill establishes a Statewide peer assistance program for registered and licensed practical nurses to help nurses experiencing mental health, alcohol, drug problems. A tax-exempt organization would administer the program. The bill further provides for confidentiality requirements. *Remains in the House Professional Licensure Committee. Hearings on this bill are to be held in March.*

New Bills Introduced

HB 2371—Representative Mary Ann Dailey—Amends the Mcare Act further providing for declaration of policy, patient safety definitions, powers & duties of Patient Safety Authority & the Dept. of Health; providing for whistleblower protection & making an appropriation. *Referred to committee on House Health and Human Services 2-20-04.*

HB 2192—Representative Mary Ann Dailey—Amends the Medical Care Availability & Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act further providing for declaration of policy, patient safety definitions, powers & duties of Patient Safety Authority & for powers & duties of DOH; & making an appropriation. *Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary 11-24-03.*

HB 2372—Representative Pat Vance—Act establishing an informal dispute resolution process for long-term care nursing facilities & an informal dispute resolution panel within the Dept. of Health & providing for panel membership, scope of review & for data collection. *Introduced and referred to committee on House Health and Human Services 2-20-04.*

Alliance of Advanced Practice Nurses

Lobby Day

April 14, 2004 in Harrisburg

11:15 AM	Lobby Day training in the East Wing by the escalator.
12:00 PM	Rally in the Capitol Rotunda.
1:00-4:30 PM	Visits to legislators.

STUDENT VOICE

By Greig M. Williams, BSN, SRNA

The AANA holds a meeting known as the Mid-Year Assembly. This meeting provides an opportunity for participants to develop competencies in dealing with federal legislative and regulatory issues and the legislative process. There are workshops which feature speakers addressing important issues relevant to the practice of nurse anesthesia. There is also a speaker providing information and sharing the perspective of congressional priorities.

The meeting provides the necessary instruction and guidance to the legislative process. This meeting also provides the opportunity for the CRNAs and SRNAs to meet with their respective representatives and inform them of the role of nurse anesthetists and the concerns of this exceptional and valuable profession.

All the Nurse Anesthesia Programs, in PA, will receive \$350.00 to assist their students to participate in this meeting. Report to your directors for support to represent your school and attend this very informative, as well as beneficial meeting. Please try to attend Midyear Assembly (May 1-4, 2004) in Washington, D.C.

Nurse Anesthesia Students “Adopt a Friend” in the Community

Nurse anesthesia students from the Villanova University-Crozer-Chester Medical Center School of Nurse Anesthesia assisted local residents during the 2003 holiday season. Both the junior and senior classes participated in the “Adopt a Friend for the Holidays” project undertaken by the school for the second year in a row. The

goal of their efforts was to help underprivileged members of the community during the holidays by providing items of necessity.

Seventeen senior students, headed by chairperson Heather Gillis, visited Arbor Court. Arbor Court is an independent living facility for veterans adjacent to Crozer-Chester Medical Center in Upland, Pa. The seniors bought, assembled and distributed items such as bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, shaving cream and washcloths in individual gift bags for the residents.

“Working with this charity allowed my class to help an undeserved population that we do not normally encounter and allowed us to give back to the community a token of what it has given to us,” says Junior class chairperson Jason Makin.

Villanova University College of Nursing and Crozer-Chester Medical Center have collaborated on the development of a joint 27-month program to prepare certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) with a Master of Science Degree in Nursing from Villanova University. This highly competitive program that draws students nationally prepares advanced practice nurses with a sound base of theoretical knowledge and clinical experience in the practice of nursing anesthesia. Nurse anesthetists have been administering anesthesia for over 100 years. Today, CRNAs administer anesthesia in the majority of cases in the United States. For more information about the Nurse Anesthesia Program, visit www.nursing.villanova.edu/anesthesia.

University of Pittsburgh Nurse Anesthesia Program presents...

Summer Anesthesia Seminar 2004

Approved for 10 AANA CE Credits - **Saturday, June 5th 2004** - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Code Number: 26516

6:30 am – 5:00 pm

The Neurosurgical Team:

Working Together for Better Patient Outcomes

Howard Yonas, MD

Pediatric Trauma: Anesthetic and Sedation Approaches

Krista Bragg, CRNA, MSN

Surgical Challenges and New Techniques in Thoracic Surgery

James Luketich, MD

Bioterrorism and the Implications for Anesthesia Practitioners

Michael P. Allswede, DO

Anesthesia for Obstetric Emergencies

Helene Finegold, MD

Lunchtime Learning: Providers and Personality

Laura Palmer, CRNA, MNEd

Anesthesia for the Morbidly Obese Patient

Manny Vallejo, MD

Afghanistan and Iraq:

The Role of the CRNA in Deployment

Lt. John Jones, CRNA, MSN and

Lt. Dale Heron, CRNA, MSN

Risk and Outcome in Anesthesia

Nick Bircher, MD

Thermoregulation and the Anesthesia Provider

Richard Henker, CRNA, PhD, and

Bettina Dixon, CRNA, MSN

Cost: CRNA/MD \$100, Students \$50 (before May 27); after and on-site CRNA/MD \$130, Students \$75

For registration information, please visit www.pitt.edu/~pittsas

email at: napcrna@pitt.edu or call (412) 624-4860

Practice Committee Update

Anesthesia Reimbursement Based on Jurisdictional Payment

by Sue Taylor, CRNA

Effective April 1, 2004, reimbursement for anesthesia services will be based on the zip code where the service was furnished. Services paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Data Base (MPFSDB), are subject to jurisdictional payment per the online CMS Manual, Pub. 100-4, Chapter 1, Section 10.1.1; anesthesia services were previously excluded from this requirement.

Reporting

Effective for paper claims received on or after April 1, 2004, Item 32 of the CMS-1500 claim form must contain the name, address and zip code where the service was rendered, for any place of service other than the beneficiary's home, or the claim will be returned as unprocessable per the online CMS Manual, Pub. 100-4, Chapter 1, Section 80.3.1. It is acceptable for claims to contain place of service (POS) home and one additional POS code, provided the appropriate information is entered in Item 32 for the additional POS code submitted. This allows payment to be made based on the correct locality rate where the service was rendered.

For electronic claims received on or after April 1, 2004, any number of additional POS codes will be accepted per claim submission provided a corresponding service facility location and address is provided for each service at the line level if that location is different from the billing provider, pay-to-provider or claim level service facility location. Services will be reimbursed based on the zip code of the service facility location, billing provider address, or pay-to-provider address depending upon which information is submitted at the corresponding line level.



CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST

United Hospital Center, Clarksburg, WV, has a hospital-based Anesthesia Department utilizing both Anesthesiologists and CRNAs. Immediate full-time openings are available for CRNAs. The responsibilities of this highly skilled medical profession are to provide for the administration of anesthesia at United Hospital Center, Inc., with the safest and most economical methods available under supervision of the MDAs at this 376-bed facility.

The candidates for consideration must be currently licensed in the state of WV in Registered Nursing, certified by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) and accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Nurse Anesthetists.

United Hospital Center offers a comprehensive benefit program and a competitive compensation package. For this exempt position, we are offering a base hourly equivalent of \$51.00 per hour and we pay 15% of that rate for carrying a beeper while on second. Call. CRNAs are paid the base hourly equivalent for every hour worked, including all hours while on first call rotation, whether working or not. Additional other weekend positions at premium salary equivalents are available. We offer a paid time off plan, health, dental, life insurance, and vision coverage, pension plan, Long Term Disability and Life Coverage just to name a few of the benefits from our vast menu. Please contact: David Bailey, Director of Physician Services, United Hospital Center, P.O. Box 1680, Clarksburg, WV 26302-1680, Phone: (304) 624-2890, Fax: (304) 624-2909 or

E-mail:Baileyd@uhcww.org. EOE

Anesthesia Potpourri

Presented by
The Department of Anesthesia
Punxsutawney Area Hospital

Saturday
May 1, 2004

NALS Workshop
Sunday
May 2, 2004

The Punxsutawney Country Club
Punxsutawney, PA

15 CE Credits

For Information Contact:
Karen Herriotts, CRNA
Punxsutawney Area Hospital
81 Hillcrest Drive
Punxsutawney, PA 15767
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VOTE



RICK HOFFMAN, CRNA, BSN, BA
AANA PRESIDENT-ELECT

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2002-2003

Treasurer

2001-2002

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1998-2000

AANA Foundation Trustee

2002-2003

AANA Friend for Life

1999

AANA COMMITTEES

Ad-Hoc Committee on FPD's 2002-2003

Continuing Ed. Committee 2001-2002

Finance Committee 2000-2001

Occupational Safety & Hazard Committee 1996-1997

Nominating Committee 1995-1996

Vote for **Louise Hershkowitz, CRNA, MSHA**
AANA President-Elect

Now is the time to utilize the strength of our professional associations
and the energy of our members to assure Nurse Anesthesia's future.

1. Embark on a comprehensive Public Relations program, to assure that the public recognizes the contributions of CRNAs to their health care.
2. Support our educational programs, both entry-level and post-certification, and create processes that assure continuing professional excellence.
3. Create a comprehensive Leadership Development Program to help CRNAs in their states and nationally develop skills that will assure our future.

**Please join me at this exciting time in history in making sure that
Nurse Anesthesia has the kind of future that we all want.**

Contact me at 2020 Turtle Pond Drive, Reston, VA 20191
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Tidings

