

PANA Update

Elsie Murray, CRNA, MPM, President



The Nominating Committee Chair, Julie Antidorme, presented a ballot for review and approval at the June Board Meeting. The Board would like to extend its appreciation to those persons willing to serve in the capacity of officers and trustees. The ballot results were reviewed at the September Board Meeting and will be presented at the October Annual Meeting for final approval.

The Program Committee Co-Chair, Diana Davidson and Paula Weiss, have reported on plans for the 2005 Fall Symposium at the Sheraton Atlantic City in conjunction with the NJANA. Much effort has gone into the planning of this event. We are looking forward to seeing you in Atlantic City, October 21-23, 2005.

The APRN have continued to have a busy year starting with the production of the "White Paper" presented to the Office of Health Care Reform in the spring of 2005. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2005. The Pennsylvania State Nursing Association has scheduled a pre-conference Advance Practice Nursing Panel Discussion: "The Dilemma over the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)" on September 23, 2005 as part of their annual State Meeting in Harrisburg. Kathleen Kinslow, CRNA, EdD will participate on the panel representing PANA.

The APRN Lobby Day in Harrisburg is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2005 at 11am in the Rotunda of the Capital. If you (CRNAs/SRNAs) can arrange your schedules to attend please contact me by e-mail (elmurray@prodigy.net) by Friday, October 14, 2005. The PANA Board would appreciate your attendance to support our profession.

The AANA Annual Meeting was well attended by more than a thousand students and several hundred CRNAs. There was a continual flourish of activities including: the AANA business meeting; the Keynote Session; the C-E sessions; the introduction of the newly elected AANA Board and Committee Members for the 2006 fiscal year; the focus sessions for the Assembly of School Faculty, the Administrative Management, and Student sessions; the impressive AANA Opening Ceremonies; and the 16th annual College Bowl Competition. The attendees had additional opportunities to network at the AANA Foundation Golf Outing, at the CRNA-PAC affair during the International Spy Museum Reception/Tour, at the Party with a Purpose-charity my Sister's Place, and at the Annual Banquet. Your August 2005 AANA News bulletin provides additional AANA Annual reports and information.

PANA received some great news during the opening ceremonies. PANA received the AANA 1st Place PR Award for 2005. As you can imagine every PANA

member present was exuberant!! Many thanks go to Lois Illar, chair of PANA's PR Committee for her devotion and leadership making it possible for PANA to receive this very prestigious award. Lois Illar will also represent PANA by providing the PANA update at the St. Clair Hospital Anesthesia Conference on September 24, 2005.

The 8th World Congress for Nurse Anesthetists will be held in Lausanne, Switzerland on June 10, to June 13, 2006. If you are interested in attending, please contact Michael Kinslow or Margie Darbut.

Continuing efforts to explore the possibility of establishing meetings between the PANA and PSA Boards are being pursued. The PSA Board has selected Joseph Answine MD, as their liaison to begin the process. At the September Board Meeting, Fred Ackler, CRNA, MS, was selected as PANA's liaison representative.

It has come to the attention of the PANA and PSA Boards that there have been several requests for permission to administer Propofol to patients by other health care providers. As a result of receiving this information, Mr. Ackler will request a meeting with Dr. Answine to discuss this issue. A combined propofol concern statement from the AANA/ASA and the PANA/PSA will be developed by the PANA for discussion at this meeting.

The PANA Board is optimistic that this meeting will encourage a continued opportunity for both organizations to dialogue and participate together in other meetings to affect favorable patient outcomes and provide safe anesthesia care to every Pennsylvania patient.

The PANA Board is requesting that members Fred Ackler and David Culp be placed on the PA SBON agenda in December 2005. They will present recommendations regarding changes in PA Code on Conscious Sedation by RN's. The PA SBON had recently requested input from the PANA on this issue.

President-Elect Mike Kinslow presented an impressive Strategic Plan for fiscal year 2006 at the September Board Meeting. The Board approved the Strategic Plan and is looking forward to working diligently to accomplish its goals.

A letter will be sent to District Chairs informing them that the PANA Board is making available for each district a "Grass Roots Lobbying Workshop" featuring our lobbyists, The Winter Group, and a PANA Board Member. The Board is urging every district to schedule this workshop as part of one of their regular meetings during the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

Several reimbursement issues affecting CRNAs have continued to be reviewed by the Board. The board is actively involved in trying to help CRNAs find appropriate responses to this dilemma.

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Know Your Legislator

State Senator Jane C. Orié Republican—40th Senatorial District



State Senator Jane C. Orié was first elected in March 2001 to the State Senate to fill the vacancy in the 40th Senatorial district, and won re-election to a full four-year-term in 2002. Prior to taking her seat in the Pennsylvania State Senate, she spent 4 ½ years in the State House of Representatives. She currently represents portions of northern Allegheny County, and southern and central Butler County.

Focusing on the needs of her constituents, Senator Jane C. Orié has lead the fight for improvements in health care, prescription drug coverage, tax reform, safety in schools, crime victims' rights, economic development and infrastructure

enhancement on the state and local levels. Her legislative initiatives regarding domestic violence and tobacco settlement allocation have made Pennsylvania a national leader in public health. Respected among her colleagues and her community as legislator with integrity and a strong work ethic, Senator Orié has shown great initiative and leadership in Harrisburg and her communities.

Senator Jane C. Orié, a lifelong resident of McCandless Township, is a veteran 10-year prosecutor who served as state Deputy Attorney General in the Division of Criminal Prosecution and as Assistant Allegheny County District Attorney where she was elevated, due to her high conviction rate, to the divisions of Homicide and Crimes Against Persons. Orié holds a BA from Franklin & Marshall College and a Law degree from Duquesne University School of Law. She is currently one of 8 women serving in the Pennsylvania State Senate.



Paula Weiss, CRNA, MS - PANA Trustee attended a breakfast fundraiser for Senator Jane Orié on June 24, 2005 at One Oxford Center in Pittsburgh, PA.

An Invitation to Wellness

“In Memoriam Jan Stewart, CRNA, ARNP September 18, 1952–October 30, 2002

Jan Stewart, CRNA, ARNP, who served as AANA president from 1999-2000, passed away suddenly at her home in Seattle, Wash., on Oct. 30, 2002. She leaves behind a daughter, Sarah Stewart; her partner, Gil Key; her parents, Bob and Ruth Larson; her brothers Bob, Merle, Larry, and Jim; and countless friends and colleagues.....”

Retrieved from the www at http://aana.com/crna/jan_stewart.asp

The AANA Wellness initiative was begun under the leadership of former AANA president Tom McKibban, CRNA, MS in 2003 in collaboration with the friends, colleagues and family of Jan Stewart, CRNA, MS in honor of her

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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
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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.

Chemical Dependency? Need to talk to someone?

PANA Chemical Dependency Contact Person

Art Zwerling, CRNA, MS

Home: 215-635-0183

Work: 215-829-5691

Pager: 215-998-1241



TIDINGS

Is the official publication of the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists, 908 North Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102. Telephone: 800-495-PANA; FAX: 717-236-2046; e-mail: info@pana.org; World Wide Web: www.pana.org.

PANA Publications Susan Clark, CRNA

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CAPITOL INSIGHTS

Angie Mellott Armbrust, Winter Group

Session Update

It's been a quiet summer here in Harrisburg. The legislature returned to session — the Senate on September 19th, the House on September 26th. Property tax reform, increasing the minimum wage and insurance benefits for National Guard troops serving in Iraq are all expected to be topics of discussion with their return.

Legislation of Interest

The Winter Group maintains a list of all bills that pertain to PANA and sends weekly updates to your Executive Board for comments. The following is a summary of the recent action that some of those bills have seen.

The House Professional Licensure Committee recently held public hearings in Philadelphia at Temple University on the following nursing-related bills:

HB 40 Representative Thomas—Amends the Professional Nursing Law by adding that the examination for licensure must be conducted in English and Spanish. Additionally, the legislation states that the Board may issue a certification *without examination* to registered nurse practitioners who have completed a course of study equivalent to that required in PA at the time such course was completed or who are licensed or certified by another state, territory or possession of the United States or a foreign country which licensure or certification requirements are deemed equivalent to PA's certification requirements in accordance with the joint rules and regulations of the Boards of Nursing and Medicine. A course of study completed in Puerto Rico that entitles a person to become a registered nurse in Puerto Rico would be considered by the Board to be equivalent to that required in this State and registered nurse practitioners who are licensed or certified in Puerto Rico would be deemed to have satisfied Pennsylvania's certification requirements. The Board would issue a certification to such persons without examination.

HB 47 Representative Thomas—Amends the Practical Nurse Law by adding that the examination for licensure must be conducted in English and Spanish. Additionally, the legislation states that no examination would be required for applicants who have completed a program in practical nursing in Puerto Rico that entitles such persons to be licensed as a practical nurse in Puerto Rico.

HB 1063 Representative Barrar—Amends the Professional Nursing Law by allowing the State Board of Nursing to certify licensed registered nurses as clinical nurse specialists if they satisfy certain requirements. Beginning on the effective date of this legislation, a nurse would not qualify for initial certification by the board unless the nurse holds a Master's degree, Doctoral degree or postmaster's certificate from an educational program in nursing that has been approved by the board and that prepares graduates to practice as a clinical nurse specialist. The board may issue a certification to clinical nurse specialists who have completed a course of study considered by the board to be equivalent to that required in PA at the time such course was completed or who is licensed or certified by another state, territory or possession of the United States or a foreign country as deemed equivalent to Pennsylvania's certification requirements, and who has met all the requirements as to character and preliminary education.

HB 1810 Representative Gannon—The Nurse Registry Act establishes within the Department of Health a registry of reports made by health care facilities relating to misconduct by or dismissal of a nurse. The legislation provides for duties of the Department in creating and maintaining the registry. Additionally, the department may assess a fine of \$500 to \$1,000 if a health care facility willfully fails to provide a written report.

The Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee has not held any hearings over the summer.

Alliance Updates

The Alliance of Health Care Providers hosted a dinner on June 13 with House and

Senate Professional Licensure Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Executive Directors. Peg Moyer, Angie Armbrust, and David Culp, CRNA, MS attended on PANA's behalf. The evening was a chance to interact with these important decision makers as well as other health care providers from across the state.

The Alliance of Advance Practice Nurses will be holding its annual APRN Lobby Day at the Capitol on Tuesday, October 25th. There will be a rally and press conference in the Main Rotunda at 1 PM, followed by visits to legislators in the afternoon. A reception that evening from 4-6 PM will be held in the East Wing Rotunda. Any PANA member is welcome to attend. Please contact us at The Winter Group if you would like additional details.

State Board Updates

The Winter Group continues its monthly monitoring of The State Boards of Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine, and Nursing. The two medical boards have various regulations in the works at this time, addressing topics such as athletic trainers, acupuncturists, physicians' assistants, and respiratory care practitioners. The Nursing Board has regulations dealing with CRNP revisions, RN revisions, temporary practice permits, LPN/IV therapy and fee increases in various stages of completion. 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.

Other

PA State Nurses Association is sponsoring an Advanced Practice Panel Discussion on Friday, September, 23rd in response to the policy statement made by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) that all APNs should be required to have a Doctor of Nursing Practice by 2015. Experts will present their views. The symposium will be held in Harrisburg at the Wyndham Harrisburg-Hershey. Additional information can be obtained at the PSNA website—www.pсна.org.

Introducing PANA's Legal Counsel

I was appointed as legal counsel for PANA in June of this year, but I have been working with the current Board since September of 2004. I have been representing public and non-profit organizations for over twenty-five years, and I am extremely impressed with the dedication of the PANA officers and trustees with whom I have worked in the last year. I believe that, in order to be a nurse anesthetist, one must possess a high degree of professional passion and a tremendous work ethic. I always receive e-mails from Board members which are sent late at night because of their rigorous work schedule. I have learned a lot in the past year concerning the issues which are challenging the Association and your profession. I will do my best to continue to listen and learn in order to provide quality legal representation to the Association. I am honored to represent the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists.



Tim Barry, Legal Counsel

STUDENT VOICE

By Mikel Foster, SRNA

Well here is my last offering for the PANA student voice. It has been a great pleasure serving with this board, and I have enjoyed meeting everyone. To all the students out there I can not stress enough the importance of becoming involved in your state association and on the national level. You are going to inherit the issues that are being fought today and will have new issues of your own.

I would like to relay some information that I have gained about what comes next after graduation. Keep your head about you. I know that many of you have been thinking about boards. Some of you have comprehensive exams for your MSN and, of course, there is clinical to attend. Here are a few quick tips I have found for keeping your sanity.

Try not to hyperventilate, keep calm and do one thing at a time. Organize your time and try to study with a group. Group study brings out new questions and perspectives if you have not learned this already. Deciding when to take your boards should be appropriate for your schedule so you do not feel rushed. Although you may feel as though you want to study a few months then take your exam, but remember you are your most sharp right out of school. Really try to minimize your stressors at this time, many of you may (or may not) remember the

stress scale from nursing school which placed a number value on a variety of different life stressors. Some of the highest life stressors were moving to a new city and starting a new job. Believe me I would like to start working and pay off some of those student loans too, but not at the expense of studying for boards.

As for the new job there are a few things that I have used in deciding what job is right for me. The most important thing should be the experience that you will receive. I completely understand those of you who have made job decisions based on families wanting to stay close to home and have to make decisions based on this. For those of us with the luxury, or at times burden, of finding the right hospital in your favorite location, try to remember that the experience is key. These first few years out of school you will build upon your knowledge base. Maintaining the learning curve at a job with daily challenges keeps you sharp. I know money is important, but like the cliché it isn't everything. Lastly make sure that someone other than you (a lawyer) reviews your contract before you sign.

Remember be an active part of your profession and your association. Be proud of what you do every day. Good luck and remember to take the time to enjoy this new chapter in your life.

An Invitation to Wellness...continued

life and passing: Her dear friend and colleague Brent Sommers, CRNA, MPS has spearheaded the mission to have a living legacy within our professional association that would reflect Jan's tremendous compassion, humanity, dedication and love of her profession.

What most members of the AANA weren't aware of until the Wellness Initiative was unveiled was that this most remarkable human being died as a direct result of chemical dependency. I hope by now every CRNA in the US, but particularly those in PA, have had an opportunity to see Jan's daughter Sara's incredibly moving DVD *About Wellness*. If not, you can order it for free from the AANA Bookstore, along with the *Wearing Masks 2 DVD* at <http://www.aana.com/bookstore/default.asp>. These two DVDs bring home the devastating impact that chemical dependency has as an occupational hazard for anesthesia providers, often one with catastrophic consequences for our professional community.

I am hopeful that PANA will become a leader in cultivating a culture of wellness for our membership. I believe simply that the stakes are too high for us to not be at the forefront of this movement. We have the largest number of CRNAs of any constituent state of the AANA. We have rapidly evolved as the epicenter of CRNA educational programs and processes within the US. The cultural legacy we provide our future colleagues and anesthesia providers is a huge responsibility. Linda Williams CRNA, JD, AANA past president, stated in her inaugural speech, "Our students are less than 10% of our membership, but they are 100% of our future". I'd love to see PANA as an organization of concerned, compassionate, proactive professionals be the national model for bringing a culture of wellness to our schools, departments and membership. To this end I am working with Paula Weiss, CRNA, MS and Mike Conti, CRNA, MS –Committee Chair to form a Wellness Committee within the PANA.. To be quite honest the work I've done over the past 10 years as a Peer Assistance Advisor for PANA has worn me down. I desperately need the help! **For future information on wellness, please refer to our website @ www.pana.org.**

Art Zwerling

Come Join PANA

Pennsylvania Association of
Nurse Anesthetists



for it's Annual
Spring Conference

April 7-9, 2006
The Hotel Hershey
Hershey, Pennsylvania

"Chocolatetown USA"



For future
information,
visit
www.pana.org

Public Relations and PANA a Winning Combination This Year

This year our four-part PR campaign will come to an end in Oct. 2005. It has been a winning plan, as we have been honored with **AANA PR Recognition Award** for the first time in 11 years.

The first part of the campaign went into play January of this year. Letters were sent to each Pennsylvania Hospital administrator. Also, included with the letters was information pertaining to the long history of CRNAs in Pennsylvania. Strongly pointed out was the long history of, and the ongoing, excellent contribution to health care made by CRNAs. Anesthesia is safer now than ever before. This letter reviews the outstanding safety record of anesthesia given today. It emphasizes the fact that here in Pennsylvania 65-85 % of all the anesthesia are provided by CRNAs. Therefore, we are proud to accept the majority of the responsibility for the current safety statistics. A copy of our Governor's Proclamation for CRNA week was included along with the other information for public display.

Next, our legislative efforts have always been a large part of our PR efforts. This year was our first state **CRNAs Lobby Day**, in Pennsylvania. Presently and in the past, we united with advanced practice nurses for our lobby efforts because we share many issues. In addition, we realize that many political issues are exclusive to our profession, so an annual **CRNAs Lobby Day**, will continue to take a major role in our legislative efforts. When we meet with legislators, as a formal group in Harrisburg, it is always impressive for them and a good experience for us. A great legislative experience is also at the home front. I encourage you to go to your local legislators office on any day, meet the staff, tell them you live in the community, and offer yourself as a resource person on health care issues. Let them know you are a voting CRNA in their district. On a federal level we lobby on Capitol Hill during the AANA Mid Year Assembly, with a PA representation of SRNAs and CRNAs that is awesome!

We had a special project this year in which we developed a 30 second Public Service Announcement. This announcement was made for television and distributed to each TV station in PA. It features an anesthetist as a health care authority figure, and encourages public safety during activities such as driving, cycling and skating. This can be viewed on our website.

Our charitable project for this year is linked with the USO and is under way through the end of August. Letters were sent to anesthesia departments, **Attention: CRNAs statewide to promote Christmas in July (and August) for our**

PANA Update...continued from page 1

The PANA Board was informed in July 2005 that Wanner Associate, Inc. would not provide PANA the contract service for the Managing Director's Position as of September 1, 2005. The Board has approved an interim contract with the Winter Group to provide this service from September 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005. An orderly transition has taken place and the Board is in the process of exploring their options for filling the position effective January 1, 2006. The final decision will be made at the December 3, 2005, Board Meeting.

The PANA Board is planning something special for CRNA Week 2006/PANA Lobby Day, January 24, 2006 in Harrisburg. Please place this date on your calendar. The Board would appreciate as many CRNAs and SRNAs as possible to attend this grassroots event. You will receive additional information in December.

HB 1066, the CRNA Scope of Practice Legislation, remains of primary importance to PANA. The Board is working diligently with the PANA Lobbyists to prepare for another busy year. Remember, each of us is an important constituent to every State Representative. They need to be aware of how important HB 1066 is to not only the CRNA practitioner, but to each Pennsylvania patient. Your grassroots participation is key to moving House Bill 1066 through the legislative process.

My term of office is nearing its completion. I would like to take this time to "Thank You", CRNAs and SRNAs, for your support during this busy year (fiscal

Troops. A collection of **Wish List** items for our Troops is in progress. These items will be sent to the USO where they are packaged into boxes with an approximate value of \$25. Our packages are then sent to the troops and should arrive in time for Christmas.

Lastly, we usually meet our patients very briefly before they place their lives in our hands. We watch over their every breath, and every heartbeat. When they are awakened, and we have done our job well, we leave them in the care of a recovering nurse. Many times they won't even remember we were there. Please take a small portion of your free time to let the public know you are there. Also, visit a state or federal legislator in your area. Be proud of what you do, tell them what you do. They say, "It pays to advertise". When you are out, wear a CRNA T-shirt, or pin, or license plate etc, attract some attention. Your profession is being very good to you in today's market. Take time to give back so we can be confident for years to come, when we, or someone we care about needs an anesthetic, there is a CRNA at the head of the OR bed.

Lois Illar, CRNA, Bsed Trustee and PR Chairman

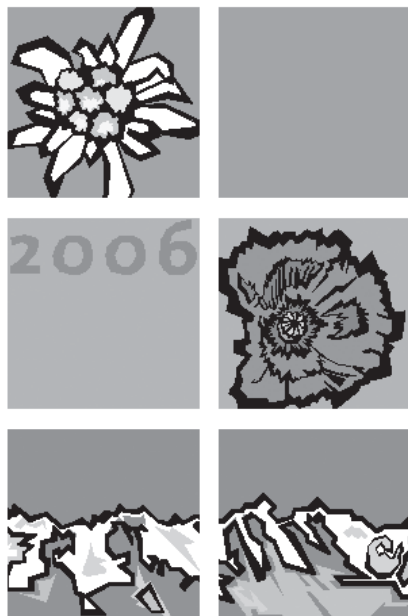


year 2004-2005). I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with all of you during my term.

It has been my pleasure to serve you. I look forward to continue my service in some capacity to you and our patients in the future.



Elsie Murray
receiving the
PR Award



8th World Congress for Nurse Anesthetists Lausanne Switzerland

Invitation

The 8th world congress of Nurse Anesthetists will be held from June 10-16, 2006 in Lausanne, the 3. largest Town in Switzerland. This is the second world congress that is located in Switzerland. The first congress in Switzerland was the first congress of the IFNA and was held in Lucerne (1985). On this Meeting participate 250 Nurse Anesthetists. The following congresses were in Netherlands, Amsterdam (1988) Norway, Oslo (1991), France, Paris (1994) Austria, Vienna (1997) and in 2000 were the first congress in the USA in Chicago. In 2002 the congress came back to Europe, to Finland, Helsinki. The congress was growing and had enthused in Europe up to 2600 and in USA up to 3500 Nurse Anesthetists. The Swiss nurse anesthetists association (SIGA/FSIA) is proud to have the honor to have the possibility to host this congress the second time. We will do our best to lead also this congress to big a success. The congress venue will be the Palais de Beaulieu. This Congress cen-

tre is well known for big events in the medical area and in others. Because of the excellent public transfer system you can reach the congress centre from every Hotel in centre town in 15 minutes. We are expecting approx. 2000 Nurse Anesthetists worldwide. The congress centre we will provide the best technological know how and equipment for our event. The scientific program will give you an actual overview over the development in Nurse Anaesthesia care. The large exhibition will show the newest technical and pharmacologic developments in Anesthesia. Beside the scientific program we will organize for your and your accompany a wonderful social program. You will have several options of excursions and pre- or post congress tours. June is a perfect travelling time for Switzerland. You could spent a nice and warm evening on the lake or in a restaurant in the middle of an vineyard. The multi language culture in Switzerland makes travelling in Switzerland easy and the friendly people makes it interesting. In the Name of the Swiss Nurse Anesthetists Association (SIGA/FSIA), the National and International Organization Committee (NOC) (CPC) and the International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists (IFNA) we wish you for the 8th World Congress, a warm welcome.

Karsten Boden
Chairman

June 11-13, 2006

June 11th Sunday

I	II	III	IV
IFNA-Program Neurology	Education Program Education program	Free communication Free communication	Difficult Airway Wkshp Difficult Airway Wkshp

June 12th Monday

Education Program Heart	Pain Pain	Free communication Free communication	Spinal/Epidural Wkshp Spinal/Epidural Wkshp
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June 13th Tuesday

Management Management	New techniques /new drugs Pediatric	Oral poster session Free communication	Measurement of anes- thetic-depth Wkshps Measurement of anes- thetic-depth Wkshps
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Complete information can be found at www.wcna2006.ch

For further information, contact Margie Darbut.

To all Pennsylvania CRNAs and SRNAs:

My name is David Culp, CRNA, MS and I work in Lancaster, PA. I am your two-year Trustee on the PANA board and chair the Student Activities Committee. I am happy to serve you in all aspects of promoting nurse anesthesia in Pennsylvania.

I was born in Johnstown, PA and started my health care career right out of high school as a Paramedic. I was directly involved in starting a paid advanced life support ambulance service that pulled ambulances out of volunteer fire departments and into the hands of trained Paramedics while instituting third party billing to provide operating funds.

I met my wife Cindy, a beautiful nurse working at Conemaugh Hospital in Johnstown, PA. Two weeks after our honeymoon I started my registered nursing training at Mount Aloysius College in Cressan, PA graduating Suma Cum Laude.

I immediately began to work at Conemaugh Trauma Center in intensive care to learn about ventilator management and hemodynamics. After three years I went to work in an operating room for six years. My wife and I had twin boy and girl on May 10, 1992. During this time I continued to finish my BSN at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

I applied to Westmoreland-Latrobe School of Anesthesia and was accepted. The next three years of commuting to LaRoche College in Pittsburgh and to the various clinical sites while raising three-year-old twins was a great challenge for Cindy and I.

I graduated from anesthesia school in 1998 and began working at Lancaster General Hospital (level II trauma center) in central PA for seven years. My twins are

now thirteen years old and starting the eighth grade.

I incorporated as Red Rose Anesthesia LLC in 2003. I soon became acutely aware of the importance of practice issues in our state. I filled out a willingness to serve form for PANA and was elected as your two-year trustee. I have been very busy with my business and learning the political aspects of Harrisburg and the role that PANA plays in assuring the right of nurse anesthetist to function under physician supervision.

More than ever, we need every student and nurse anesthetist in PA to get active in the political venues of our career. Don't wait for others to carry the load of responsibility to assure nurse anesthetists will function in all areas of anesthesia to care for the patients in PA. Call upon your state representatives and senators and educate them about the true safety and function of our advanced nursing practice.

Nurse Anesthetist school directors need to remind their captive audience of nurse anesthetist students of the importance to make PANA and AANA work for their career preservation

In conclusion, I wish to thank you for your support and voting for me as your representative on the PANA board. This is a big job that requires all nurse anesthesia providers to become active in Harrisburg.

**Sincerely,
David Culp, CRNA, MS**

Board Briefs – Sept. 10, 2005

On Sept. 10, 2005 a board meeting was conducted at the Airport Hyatt, Pittsburgh.

A quorum was present with the following members: Elsie Murray, Mike Kinslow, Mike Stefonetti, Margie Darbut, Fred Ackler, Julie Antidormi, Susan Clark, Mike Conti, David Culp, Lois Ilar, Joe D'Amico, Renee Taylor and Student Representative, Kirk Foster. PANA Lobbyist/ Managing Director Mark Singel and Angie Armbrust along with Legal Counsel Tim Barry Esq. were also present.

Tim Barry was accepted as the PANA legal counsel. Considerations for The Winter Group application for the Managing Director for the year 2006 were accepted.

Mark Singel presented the lobbyist report for the scope of practice legislation. The bills remain fixed in committee. The issue of non-anesthesia personnel administration of propofol will be addressed by the PANA at an upcoming Board of Nursing Meeting.

Margie Darbut reported the budget remains stable and balanced. The registrations for the fall meeting will go directly to the Treasurer because of the recent change in Managing Directors.

Plans for a Lobby Day are being planned for CRNA Week in January. Lobby day in June was considered successful with a large number of students and CRNAs visiting their respected legislators.

Mike Conti reported the portfolios continue to show growth. A meeting with the Calabrese Group will take place at the fall meeting. They will present their proposal for Managing Director.

The results of this year's election were finalized and accepted by the board.

The PANA congratulates Lois Ilar, chair of the Public Relations Committee, for winning the National PR Award at this year's AANA Meeting in Washington, D.C.. Lois' time and effort paid off this year with an exceptional presentation.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Stefonetti, CRNA
Vice-President, PANA**

Nurse Anesthetists, Par Agreement, and New Fees to be on CD-ROM for 2006

Similar to last year, the CMS supplied Medicare Participation Agreement, Fact Sheet, and new Physician Fee Schedules will be sent to all providers on CD ROM. The CD ROM will again contain additional supplemental data to enhance the value of the CD ROM to your office.

The use of the CD ROM allows providers to search the fee schedule electronically, view only the data applicable to your practice, print only the data applicable to your practice, analyze the data, download the fees applicable to you and reformat them to meet your needs, duplicate the CD ROM to share the data in your organization, and to get additional help on billing and claims information without having to sign onto the internet.

This years CD ROM will also contain a short video from CMS concerning the

Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage which will become effective January 1, 2006. Along with the video, CMS will be including a "provider tool kit" that includes information on the prescription drug benefit for your use in helping explain the new benefits to your patients.

Updates to the fee schedules and participation enrollment will be posted periodically to our web site, <http://www.hgsa.com/>. You can make sure you don't miss any updates by subscribing to our email listserve at <http://www.hgsa.com/maillinglist.shtml> and select our General mail list.

A limited number of fee schedules will be printed and made available to providers who do not have computers with CD ROM drives. The printed versions will not include the value added information.



**Please Join the WVANA
At Their State Meeting
March 23-26, 2006
Contact Dixie Wilson (304) 525-2112**

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A PITTSBURGH TRADITION!!!

Mark your calendars for the 32nd Annual Pittsburgh Symposium for Nurse Anesthetists to be held on Saturday, February 24, 2006. 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 online at www.pana.org in January, 2006. For more information, contact Mary Jo Lynch at 412-641-4228 or mlynch@magee.edu.

Mark Your Calendars!

Oct. 21-23, 2005	Annual PANA Fall Symposim - Atlantic City, NJ
Oct. 25, 2005	APN Lobby Day-Harrisburg, PA- info@pana.org
April 7-9, 2006-	PANA Spring Symposium- Hershey, PA
June 9-13, 2006	8 th World Congress for Nurse Anesthetist- Lausanne Switzerland- for more information visit www.wcna2006.ch or contact Margie Darbut.



Tidings

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