2003-2004 ARNA Historical Report

The 2003 Board of Directors assumed office at the annual Spring meeting in Salt Lake City, UT. Officers included: President-Kate Little, President-elect- Delma Armstrong, Immediate Past President- Kathleen Gross, Secretary- Kathy Scheffer, Treasurer- Sophia Jan, Board members- Rhonda Caridi, Barbara Sargent, Paulette Snoby. A reorganization of the committee structure has taken place, with membership, standards, and clinical practice committees officially dissolved. A move was made to smaller task forces with shorter deadlines. The Historian Role will be assumed by the Secretary with the support of the National Office. Bylaws and the ARNA policy & procedure manual were reviewed and revisions to the bylaws are to be voted on by the membership this year.

Publications

A call for Editor went out to the membership and Marie Korenstein, MHS, RN, CRN of Miami Lakes, FL, was appointed the new editor of the journal Images. With the acquiring of Elsevier as the publisher of the journal, a new name was suggested and approved by the board. The inaugural edition of the Journal of Radiology Nursing (JRN) is slated for publication in spring 2004 and will be presented at the annual meeting in Phoenix, AZ.

The newsletter was renamed “Vision” – the official newsletter of the American Radiological Nurses Association.” Susan Simpson, MSN, RN served as editor. “Chapter Chat” and “Five Minutes with a Board of Director (BOD)” became regular features.

A Revisions Task Force was created to review and update the following publications: Job Description – Radiology Staff Nurse, Guidelines for Radiological Nurse Orientation, and Justification for a Radiology Nursing Position they are to be available for purchase at the annual meeting.

A call for Editor went out to the membership and Colleen Sasso, BSN, RN, CRN was selected as editor of the 2nd Edition of the Core Curriculum. Volunteers were solicited as chapter authors/editors with good response from the membership.

Linda Connor, BA, RN served as Web Site Editor for 2003. Plans are underway for a website redesign for 2004. Strategic plans for the Web site include membership directory, registering online and posting Chapter educational programs.

Annual Meeting

The 2003 annual meeting was held in Salt Lake City, Utah with 358 registrants attending. The 2003 Annual Educational Meeting is the first where ARNA was the provider for the continuing education credit awarded to participants. Positive comments were received about the educational content and professionalism of the conference.
Membership

The current membership totals 1515- (Active-1466, associate- 22, international- 14). A new member orientation is planned at the spring annual meeting. A Task force was formed to work on membership activities to replace the membership committee.

Liaisons

Vascular Disease Foundation

AHRA: JoAnn Belanger and Kate Little attended the AHRA meeting in CA. Networking was an important outcome, from the ARNA booth, with this leadership group. The strong promotion of radiology nursing was accomplished.

The Alliance
Kate Little served as liaison for ARNA and served on the Brochure work group. Kate Little and Delma Armstrong attended the summit in Anaheim, CA in November 2003 and enjoyed the networking amongst all the professional organizations and leadership opportunities.

RSNA:
Kate Little attended the December meeting of the RSNA. She moderated the Refresher Course "Continuity of Care". She also participated in an education program for high school students to make them aware of healthcare as a career opportunity "Exploring Your Future in Radiology". Paulette Snoby will be the new liaison to RSNA for 2004. Paulette Snoby will organize and help conduct a survey to see where the Radiology community’s (physicians, technologists, and nurses) knowledge base is concerning this initiative, at the annual meeting in Phoenix and present this information at RSNA meeting in Chicago. Hopefully, this will help raise awareness for all.

ACR:
Kathleen Gross served as liaison for ACR and served on the ACR Safety Committee. ARNA was asked to endorse the National safety initiative of Wrong Site, Wrong Procedure, and Wrong Person surgery.

AHA:
Pat Doohan served as liaison for AHA. ARNA helped to publicize the “Go Red for Women Campaign” to raise awareness of women’s heart disease by sending out a mass email to the membership. February 6, 2004 was designated as the day to highlight the fact that heart and blood vessel disease is the number one killer of women.
Committee Activities:

Chapter Committee: The board approved three new chapters at the Jan. 2004 board meeting upon the recommendation of the Chapters committee. They are: First Coast Nurses Association (Florida), Grand Canyon State Chapter (Arizona), and Greater Pittsburg Radiology Nurses Association (Pennsylvania). This brings the chapter count to 28.

Nominating Committee: Kathleen Gross chaired the nominating committee for 2003. An impressive ballot was distributed for election of the 2004 officers. New officers will be installed at the spring annual meeting. The Call for Nominations form is being revised to better reflect the nominees CV and goal statement. A policy is being developed to outline the makeup of the Nominating Committee.

Scholarship Committee: One application was submitted for the Charlotte Godwin Scholarship and none for the Dorothy Budnek Memorial Scholarship. The Scholarship applications will be updated and included in the Annual Meeting program book.

Lifetime Membership Task Force: The task force met and submitted recommendations to the board for life time membership criteria. The board reviewed the recommendations and tabled action at this time. The staff will investigate information into a possible ARNA fellowship designation program. The task force was thanked for their input and dissolved.

Public Policy: Lois Curtwright served as the representative for Public Policy. A Capital Update online service is available free to the membership. This will help to keep members updated on important political issues.

RNCB:
RNCB became a separate incorporated body from ARNA. The president of ARNA will serve as a formal liaison to the RNCB board. A separate policy and procedure manual was approved. RNCB will meet annually at the spring educational meeting. It was approved to have recertification accomplished via CE credits instead of retesting. Starting in 2004, candidates may choose to re-certify by examination or by obtaining continuing education contact hours.

ARNA remains strong and continues to grow professionally with both dedicated staff and membership.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Scheffer, BSN, RN, CRN
Secretary, ARNA
Historian 2003