

RN NEWS

The Newsletter of the American Radiological Nurses Association
Volume 1 Issue 3

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The Editor's Desk

It seems as though it was only yesterday that Ginny Clancy approached me with the idea of writing a newsletter for the National Organization and now you're reading the third issue of RNNews. Just coming up with a name and a format was a struggle, but everything has worked out well. The newsletter appears to be a big success and I am receiving many informative articles for publication. There is one problem however; when you submit information for the newsletter, please include the name, address and phone number for a contact person so that our members are not stranded should they wish to inquire about a seminar or have information to share. If you have an eMail or Web address, include that too. The only way I can keep everyone up to date is if all of the information is available to me.

Again, I want to thank everyone for the support that is making our newsletter a reality, not just a dream.

The article submission deadline for the next issue of the newsletter is October 4th, 1996.

Everyone have a safe and happy summer.

Bob Steel

Bob Steel RN, AS
President, NJ Chapter

Second Licensure for Nurse Practitioners?

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has issued a request for proposal (RFP) to nursing and testing organizations to develop a job analysis of entry level nurse practitioners and a testing plan. This comes after months of negotiation between NCSBN and the four certifying nurse organizations for nurse practitioners. It is believed this would eventually lead to a requirement for second licensure. It would compete with the nursing profession's current method for regulation of advanced practice certification.

This proposal by NCSBN threatens the standards established by the profession and their self regulation. No other discipline requires a second licensure for advanced practice. ANA believes it should not occur in nursing. It has the potential to

impede the evolution of nursing practice.

ANA urges nurses to write their State Boards to oppose this action by the NCSBN.

Way To Go, Joanna!

Joanna V. Po, RN, MSN, C, has been approved as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Medical-Surgical Nursing by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the state of Texas. This approval as an Advanced Practice Nurse was granted to Joanna in April, 1996. A charter member of ARNA, Joanna served as President in 1985, and is the current Inter-Society Liaison to the American College of Radiology (ACR). She is also a member of the Core Curriculum and Certification Committees. Congratulations, Joanna!

Silent Auction We've Had Twins !

Christmas shopping in July? Not quite, but the Scholarship Committee is gearing up for their next event, in Chicago at ARNA's 15th annual Meeting and Educational Program during RSNA. A letter will be sent to each Chapter asking for a regional gift in hopes of adding local flavor to the Auction. Last year the Gourmet Baskets proved to be very popular, truly adding local "taste"!

The committee encourages involvement for those unable to come to Chicago by sending a letter out to members before the Auction with the final selection of items available. Fax forms allow you to make a bid in absentia: two items were won last year via fax!

The first annual auction included books, subscriptions, artwork, gift certificates, china, and a TV, priced from \$12-\$350.

If you have any interesting ideas for items, please contact Lee Whitmore, RN, Chairperson Scholarship Committee/Silent Auction at (203)-431-3620. She has semi-form letters to help make soliciting less painful. Put on your thinking caps and help make this event successful and fun-filled.

ARNA would like to welcome two new chapters which were approved by the board on May 8, 1996.

The first new chapter is the Windy City Regional ARNA Chapter, located in the suburbs of Chicago, Illinois. For information on up-coming meetings please contact Chapter President Amy Valdez, RN, BSN, CEN, Phone (708) 856-7432 or Fax (708) 856-7399.

The other new chapter is the Southern Rays Chapter in Alabama. This chapter's President is Wynonia Saooge RN.

Please feel free to contact any of the other chapters with question or problems, we will all do our best to help you through your infancy. Good luck and welcome aboard.

By the way, with our "new arrivals", we are now 23 chapters strong.

Vascular Access Seminar

The Divisions of Interventional Radiology and Surgical Oncology at Yale University School of Medicine will host the

second annual conference, "Vascular Access: Issues and Innovations", September 7 and 8, 1996 in Mystic, Connecticut. This meeting will focus on all aspects of venous access as they relate to patients requiring long term therapy and dialysis. Devices, techniques, complications and their management will be reviewed.

For further information and registration details, please contact Yale University Office of Postgraduate and Continuing Medical Education at (203) 785-4578.

Australian Seminars

Anyone want to see a Koala or Kangaroo? If so you may be interested in several conferences in Australia.

Topics include MRI & CT, Ultrasound in Medicine, Clinical Competance, and Breast Cancer, and will be held from August through November, 1996.

For information, contact Dr. Peter Scally, Mater Hospital, South Brisbane, Australia, 4101. Phone +61 7 3266 387 FAX +61 7 3266 9087

Additional Australian conferences will be announced in future issues of RNNews.

Stent Conference

For our colleagues in the South or those who wish they were there, keep September 11-13th available. The Division of Cardiovascular Disease is sponsoring a program titled Cardiovascular Stenting - "Expanded sessions for the Cardiovascular Nurse and CVT/RT". This program includes carotid and coronary stent courses, peripheral vascular stent courses with classes re: Pre and Post Care of this patient population and conscious sedation issues.

For additional course information, please contact Tami Hancock, RN, CCRN UABH Operational Coordinator, Cath Lab. 664 JT, 619S 19th St. Birmingham, AL. 35233-6850. Phone (205)-934-2775, Fax (205)-975-3205.

CEUs

A course entitled "Short Stay Radiological Procedures", can earn you 10 CEU's. It was researched and written by Linda Strangio, RN, an ARNA member. She has also written several articles for "Nursing Spectrum" which you

JCAHO Reads Images!

While reviewing the 1996 JCAHO

Accreditation Manual for Hospitals, Linda Morgan ARNA past president, was surprised and pleased to find an Images article listed as a resource for the Assessment chapter. This reference is listed on page 68 of the 1996 Manual. The Images article that is referenced is from the Fall, 1994 issue, and is entitled "A new approach to assessment and documentation of conscious sedation during endoscopic examinations", by B. A. Clark.

It's exciting to know the people at JCAHO are reading Images!

New TB Standard

OSHA has been developing the TB standard for two years. It is based on 1994 CDC TB guidelines.

TB is no longer a disease of the past. A more serious form of the disease is Multiple-Drug Resistant TB (MDR TB) which has become more common. Some health care workers, especially those that are HIV infected, have

developed MDR TB and several have died.

For more information regarding the bills in the house or the CDC standards please contact Liz Livingston, RN, BSN, her fax number is (303) 436-6022.

CNO BILL

A bill has been introduced (H.R. 3337) to reauthorize the current Community Nursing Organization (CNO) demonstration project for an additional three years to allow for a full and fair evaluation of this concept.

The four CNO's are nurse-operated, serving Medicare beneficiaries in home and community settings, offering a package which includes home care, PT, OT, and speech therapy, me. equip & supplies, ambulance and preventative services, etc.

These services are provided under a contract that provides a fixed monthly capitation for each beneficiary who wishes to enroll.

The four CNO's are located in St. Paul, Minn., Urbana, IL., Tuscon, AZ., and Long Island, NY. CNO's are examples of cost effective quality nursing care. CNO's save Medicare dollars by providing accessible care and preventing unnecessary

hospitalizations and nursing home admissions.

The bill is currently in the House Ways and Means & Commerce Committees.

ANA asks that you write your representative to urge support of this bill.

Patient Safety Act

ANA has drafted a bill H.R. 3355, the "Patient Safety Act of 1996" which was introduced at a press conference on Capitol Hill by Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) on April 30. The bill addresses issues concerning the quality and safety of patient care resulting from the current trend of many hospitals to replace registered nurses with unlicensed assistive personnel. ANA lobbied for this legislation as part of their "Every Patient Deserves a Nurse" campaign.

Three key components of the bill include:

- Health care institutions must make public nurse staffing levels, staffing mix, and patient outcomes.
- Language to protect nurses from retaliation when they report or voice concerns with patient care

conditions they consider unsafe.

- The Department of Health and Human Services must review any mergers or acquisitions looking at long term effects on patient safety, the employees, and the community as a whole. They must have the power to block any transaction that would have detrimental effects on health and safety.

H.R. 3355 has been referred to the House Commerce & Ways and Means Committees. The nursing profession as a whole should be interested in supporting this important piece of legislation.

Please contact your representatives to urge their support and to ask them to consider co-sponsoring this bill.

RN NEWS

RNNEWS is published quarterly to keep ARNA members better informed.

Send submissions and comments to:

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may have read. The course is taken by mail and you can earn 10 CEU's.

It is offered through C.M.E. (Continuing Medical Education) Resource which provides all types of nursing courses in written form.

For further information, please contact CME Resource, PO Box 15163, Sacramento, CA 95851. Phone (800) 232-4238 Fax (916) 783-6067.

Ryan White

The Ryan White Care Act was reauthorized for five more years. The bill allocates grants to cities for treatment and support of AIDS patients including a reallocation of funds to reflect the growth

of AIDS cases in rural areas. It encourages voluntary counseling and testing of pregnant women to implement CDC guidelines..

Chapter News

Carolinas Chapter of ARNA held their Spring meeting March 2nd and 3rd in Hilton Head, S.C. and had a record attendance of 28 Radiology Nurses. They were pleased to meet some new faces this time around and hope they will return.

Entering their 10th year of existence, they are proud to have a solid base of "regular" members.

Chapter Secretary, Delma Armstrong, (yes, the same Delma who helps

me), has worked hard over the last month editing the their first newsletter which they hope to publish quarterly.

They will hold their educational /business meeting in Fayetteville N.C., September 21st and 22nd

For further information, please contact Kate Little R.N., President.

New Jersey Chapter members, keep Saturday, October 12, 1006 open for our Fall Educational/Business meeting. The board is hard at work putting together a program that will be both interesting and informative. Further details will be sent at a later date. Hope to see you there.

Northwest Chapter of ARNA (NWARNA) has elected the following officers for terms ending in the fall of 1998: President- Mary Sibulsky, Inland Imaging, Spokane, WA; Vice President- Linda Kitchen, Dotter Institute OHSU, Portland, OR; Treasurer- Kathy Scheffer, Tacoma General Hospital, Tacoma, WA; Secretary- Jil Hauge, St. Joseph Hospital, Tacoma, WA. Board Members include: Betty Heyano (retired); Margaret Dolan-Swedish Hospital, Seattle, WA; Brenda Paul- St. Peter Hospital, Olympia, WA.

Congratulations to the new officers.

arna

american radiological nurses association

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