

# ARN NEWS

The Newsletter of the American Radiological Nurses Association

Volume 2 Issue 1

## CURRENT ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

- 2 Clinton signs spending bill
- 3 Mission Statement approved by Board
- 4 Nurses, Euthanasia, and Assisted Suicide
- 5 Images gets new editor
- 6 1997 Newsletter schedule

## The Editor's Desk

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**H**appy New Year to everyone. I hope that the holidays were happy and healthy for all. Part of the New Year excitement is still with me. The reason for my holiday mood is the first anniversary of the newsletter. It has been a very rewarding year, working closely with the board on several aspects of the newsletter, hearing from and speaking with other ARNA colleagues regarding articles, and receiving feedback about the newsletter. I foresee the newsletter expanding because of all the interest and support shown by all of you. I may edit the articles and format the pages, but you, my colleagues, deserve the applause. You are the reason for the newsletter dream becoming a reality.

Another reality is the newsletter's loss of Delma Armstrong. Delma has accepted the position of co-chair for the Guidelines Committee and will no longer be assisting me. We seemed to click immediately, often sharing the same thoughts regarding certain pieces, whether they should or should not appear in the publication.

Although we never met in person, (we spoke many times on the phone), I feel I know her very well.

Delma, thank you for your input, hard work and time. The newsletter's loss is guidelines gain. Best of luck with the new committee.

Of course this means we now are looking for someone to assist me with the newsletter. If anyone is interested, please contact me, (I look forward to hearing from you).

Information for the next newsletter should reach me by April 4, 1997. By the way, you can now send articles to me at my new e-mail address which is [RSTEEL@ADVENTINC.COM](mailto:RSTEEL@ADVENTINC.COM) See you next issue...



*Bob Steel*

## Education Program

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**I**f spring is in the air and you need to get away for a short trip, don't forget the SCVIR/ARNA Educational meeting in Washington D.C. on March 9-12, 1997. Many interesting programs to pique your interest are planned, as well as tours around our Nation's Capital.

So be sure to send in your registration and line up the house/baby-sitters so that you can attend and support our organization at this meeting. I'm positive you will come away with increased knowledge that you will wish to pass on to you colleagues.

Hope to see many of you there.



## FDA Tobacco Proposal

A telephone poll of 1,005 adults was conducted the week of July 29 by Bruskin Goldring Research for the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. It revealed overwhelming support for the FDA proposals to reduce the appeal and access of tobacco products to children.

A group called Students Oppose Smoking provided frequent examples of cigarette advertisements near schools, playgrounds, candy displays in stores such as grocery stores or gas stations. Almost two-thirds of the stores surveyed by the group had advertisements at three feet or below which ensures they can easily be seen by young children. The chair of the group concluded that tobacco companies very aggressively market their product to children currently and the FDA proposals are need to curb this trend.

## Another look at Joe Camel

Representative Tim Roemer (D-IN) has led 67 members of Congress

in requesting the Federal Trade Commission, (FTC), to reopen its investigation of the Joe Camel advertising campaign. The FTC had done its original investigation in 1991 and had voted 3-2 not to issue an administrative complaint to R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company concerning the Joe Camel Campaign. However, recent studies have revealed some conclusions which indicate the effect of this campaign on young children should be reviewed again.

## FY 1997 Spending Bill Signed

On April 30, 1996 President Clinton signed into law the \$600 billion catch-all spending bill. Fiscal year 1997 began on October 1- \$356 billion is designated for domestic programs and benefits which include increases for disease prevention programs, substance abuse control, and violence against woman

This bill includes \$6.5 million, a \$7 million increase over the FY 1996 funding level for the Nurse Education Act. Other increases approved are National Institute of Nursing Research.

\$4 million increase to \$59.7 million. Occupational Safety and Health Administration. \$32 million increase to \$325 million. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. \$13 million increase to \$441 million. Aids Education and Training Centers, a \$4 million increase to \$161 million.

## Nurses Shortage

The ANA has requested Robert Reich, Department of Labor Secretary, to move RN's from the Schedule A list of shortage occupations to the Schedule B list which is a sufficient supply of US workers. There are only two occupations listed within Group I of A schedule, and professional nurses is one of them. This schedule lists professions in the US that the Director of the US Employment Service has determined that there are not enough US workers to fulfill the current need and therefore employment of aliens will not adversely affect the US workers similarly employed.

ANA believes there is an adequate supply of RN's to meet the needs of the health care industry.

## Internet Access

Information Resources Group, Inc. has announced the availability of an electronic information product developed specifically for case managers, RNdex™ Case Management. It includes a CD-ROM index to case management and nursing literature and a Website which provides access to a broader range of health sciences databases (Medline, Aidsline, Cancerlit, and Bioethicsline). It comes with full documentation and toll-free user-support. To use RNdex™ one needs to have an IBM-compatible computer that runs Windows and has a CD-ROM drive; to use the website databases, an account with an Internet

## RNNEWS

RNNEWS is published quarterly to keep ARNA members better informed.

Send submissions and comments to:

Bob Steel RN, AS  
225 Berger Street  
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or E-Mail  
RSTEEL@ADVENTINC.COM

## Mission Statements

At the September 1996 ARNA Board meeting, endorsements were solicited by The American Society of Perianesthesia Nurses (ASPAN) from member organizations of the National Federation for Specialty Nursing Organizations (NFSNO). As a member organization of NFSNO, the ARNA Board of Directors endorsed two position statements issued by ASPAN: Air Safety in the Perianesthesia Environment and Perianesthesia Patient with a Do-Not-Resuscitate Directive. The statements were issued on behalf of the nurses and the patients under their care, to express a willingness to understand, identify and address responsibilities and concerns inherent in each situation.

Copies of these statements and listings of the reference documents are available from: ASPAN, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, NJ 08086 or phone: ASPAN (609) 845-5557, fax (609) 848-1881; e-mail: aspan@slackinc.com; internet address: <<http://www.aspan.org>>.

## Board Highlights

So as to keep our members aware of what is going on in the organization, here are the highlights of the Board of Directors which met on January 25-26, 1997 in St. Louis, Missouri.

**1996 Annual Educational and Business Meeting:** Critique forms reviewed and majority found to be complimentary with many requests for more networking opportunities and legal issues.

**Fund Raising:** The contract with professional fund raiser, Robert J. Miller and Associates has been reviewed by ARNA legal counsel and will be signed after updating.

**Chapters:** Eight chapters did not submit reports for the Annual Business meeting.

**Core Curriculum:** Chapters are still being received. Approximately 9 out of 20 completed.

**Professional Testing Corporation (PTC):** The board agreed to sign the contract with PTC so that work can begin on development of the certification exam for Radiology Nurses.

**1997 Annual Educational and Business Meeting:** To be held on Nov. 30-Dec. 2, at the Westin Hotel in Chicago, Ill.

**Newsletter:** Additional pages approved

## Education Committee

Your suggestions are welcomed and put into action when possible. Below are current issues which the committee is tackling in hopes of implementing.

Members - please bring documentation tools to these networking opportunities to exchange and share.

A synopsis of each speakers' presentation will be printed in the brochure.

Orientation session for new attendees at the Annual meeting (there were 40 this year!)

Share-a-ride program, in order to hold down attendee's costs.

Current topics actively being sought are: legal issues, communication/conflict resolution, internet.

Easier evaluation and CEU forms in order to reduce distraction during the meeting.

Some limitations you may not be aware of are: Honorarium is

\$150.00 which limits procuring professional speakers. (If a member can recruit a speaker please notify the committee)

Speakers have backed out after our program has gone to print. This is untimely and necessitates changes in the daily program which must be announced at the time of the meeting.

Recent additions of members to the committee will greatly enhance its' ability to implement improvements. The current members now serving are five which is an increase of four members!!

Thanks for your suggestion, keep them coming. Please approach your Radiologists to address our organization during our meetings also., you can reach the committee through the Executive Office of ARNA at (630) 571-9072, or myself directly, Maurita Schieding, RN, Dept. of Radiology Imaging, Manchester Memorial Hospital, 71 Haynes ST., Manchester CT. 06040. Telephone (860) 646-1222 ext. 2378 or voice mail 2048. Hope to meet you at our next conference.

## Change of Command

**I**mages, our National magazine, has a new Editor. Linda Strangio, a NJARNA board member and author, is going to be taking over the reins for the publication.

Linda has asked me to please tell everyone to send in articles, stories, anecdotes, or any other information that pertains to radiology nursing.

The first issue with Linda as our new editor will be May 1997.

Information should be sent to her directly. Her address is:

Linda Strangio RN, 33 Knutsen Drive, West Orange, NJ 07052.

## AORN Has New Staff Member

**T**he Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN)

has added Candace Romig as Health Policy Analyst Legislative Coordinator, to their staff. Ms. Romig has extensive experience working with state legislatures, and has published policy profiles for the AORN in the past.

She developed and maintains a government affairs page on AORN's website, AORN On-line, where information and networking regarding legislative issues can be obtained. Anyone with access to the worldwide web can visit the AORN site. The internet address is

<<http://www.aorn.org>>

## Educational Conference

**T**he 14th Annual Educational Conference of the American Association of Spinal Cord Injury Nurses (AASCI) will convene at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas NV from September 2-4, 1997 with the theme "Innovative SCI Nursing Practice: Promoting Quality Outcomes". Phone (718) 803-3782 or fax (718) 803-0414 for more information.

## CT Symposium

**F**or our friends in Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin is having their 11th annual meeting on March 21-22 at the Concourse Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin. Credits are available for attending the conference. For

further information please contact Sarah Aslakson, Continuing Medical Education.

Her phone number is; (608) 263-2856 or fax her at; (608) 262-8421.

She can also be reached by E-mail at; [aslakson@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:aslakson@facstaff.wisc.edu).

## NWARNA Conference

**A**ttention NWARNA members — keep in mind your spring conference will be held on May 17, 1997.

More information about the conference will be in the next issue of RNNews, so make your plans to attend and check the newsletter for further news about the meeting.

If you want more information now you can contact; NWARNA, 2021 North 13th Street, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814 or fax them at; (208) 667-9792.

## ORNA Spring Conference

**T**he ORNA is having their spring conference on Wednesday, April 19,

1997 from 7:30-3:45. Six speakers will talk on a variety of issues ranging from Holistic Health to CO2 angiography. CEU's will be provided after completing the conference.

The meeting will be held at the Somma Health System Akron City Hospital Campus, Professional Center South, Akron Ohio.

For further information please contact Alina Nadeau or Sue Echols at; (330) 375-7806.

## Educators Resource

**T**he *Diabetes Educator* journal is an industry resource for the latest and most innovative information in diabetes education. The *Diabetes Educator* is published bimonthly and is the official journal of the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE).

"Through research features, reviews and the popular 'Tool Chest' department, the journal is the ultimate educational sharing experience," says Marilyn Graff, AADE president.

Each issue enables educators to look in-depth at everything from day-to-day issues facing practitio-

## H. IA Visas

Congress passed legislation that extends the H. IA visas for foreign educated nurses to September 30, 1997. This new law will not allow any new nurses to enter the US under the expired H. IA visa program nor does it make any changes to the current requirements. ANA considers this extension a time for H. IA nurses to either obtain permanent citizenship or return to their native country. This extension also gives employers of H. IA visa nurses and opportunity to plan USA nurse replacements.

## Euthanasia

The book *The Role of Critical Care Nurses in Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide*, written by David Asch, MD and published May 23, 1996 in the New England Journal of Medicine, has elicited statements of concern from the American Nurses Association (ANA) and the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). In Dr. Asch's article, he cites 17% to 21% of nurses he surveyed acknowledged engaging in euthanasia and assisted suicide. The

ANA and the AACN positions bring into question the researcher's methodology and study design and believe that these are so seriously flawed that conclusions regarding critical care nursing practice cannot be accurate. There is concern about the impact that this article will have on healthcare consumers who look to nurses to provide comprehensive and compassionate care to the critically ill and their families. An editorial response to this article titled "Euthanasia and Nursing Practice - Right Question, Wrong Answer" is published in the same issue of *NEJM*. It is written by Colleen

## Nursing Postcards

If you're a hard core collector or thinking about starting a collection, you may want to contact Michael Zwerdling, RN, from Chevy Chase, MD. Michael is a collector of healthcare postcards. Most of the collectable postcards date from the turn of the century, peaking during the years just before and during World War I, and continuing right up to the present day. They range

in value from a few to a few hundred dollars and consist of artist-drawn subjects, real photographs printed on postcard stock, black and white printed cards, etc. They have been produced in the United States, and in over 75 foreign countries, some of which no longer exist.

Healthcare postcards are a fascinating combination of nursing, history, and art. Some of the images, in fact most of the images, are not accessible in any other format. So if you're collecting and would like to expand your collection or are just beginning and need some guidance, you may want to give Michael a call. His number is; (301)656-2498.

If you don't get an answer, please leave a message on his answering machine and he'll try to call back. Or drop a line to: Michael Zwerdling, RN, PO box 70654, Chevy Chase, MD. 20813. Happy collecting.

## Kudos to Delma!

Delma Armstrong, a board member of the Carolinas' chapter, and until very recently also an assistant with your favorite newsletter, has won the

coveted "Clinical Preceptor Award". This award is given annually to four deserving nurses in North Carolina by the North Carolina Nurses Association.

Delma received this award for the hard work that she did last year with senior nursing students from the University of North Carolina, who came to work in her Radiology department in their last semester.

The students nominated Delma for the excellent job that she did in introducing them to the clinical aspects of the different areas in Radiology. She precepted them through many weeks of caring for patients who underwent diagnostic studies and interventional procedures.

The nurses at UNC are very happy for and proud of Delma and the hard work that she did. It was wonderful to see a Radiology nurse recognized by the North Carolina Nurses Association.

We all send you our congratulations for a job well done. This is certainly another feather in the cap of Radiology nurses. It is really nice to see that we are being recognized for the contributions we make in caring for patients and helping them on the road to recovery.



ners, to the latest research impacting diabetes care. "tool Chest" provides a forum for 'invention', with how-to's, games and special program descriptions.

additionally, each issue offers a multi-disciplinary approach to diabetes education through original articles, including research studies, program evaluations, reviews, continuing education tests and industry updates.

AADE is a multi-disciplinary organization of more than 10,000 members dedicated to promoting quality diabetes education.

## 1997 Newsletter Production Schedule

All newsletter items need to be submitted to Bob Steel by the following dates:

Issue	Deadline Date	
	to Bob Steel	to Betty Rohr
1997		
Spring	February 3	February 24
Summer	April 4	April 25
Fall	July 5	July 26
Winter	October 3	October 24



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