

RN NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN RADIOLOGICAL NURSES ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER, 2001
VOLUME 6
NUMBER 4

KUDOS TO LINDA STRANGIO

**THE DEADLINE
FOR SUBMITTING
INFORMATION
FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE IS
January 14, 2002**

- position open -
see "from the
Editor's Desk" p. 3

- passing candi-
dates, CRN exam
p. 2

By Kathleen A. Gross, BSN, RN,C, CRN

For many radiology nurses, leaving the workplace means putting work and professional issues aside. This certainly is not the case for Linda Strangio, Editor of *Images*. Her dedication to the discipline of radiology nursing goes far beyond. Linda's after hours include hours of volunteer labor on the quarterly production of *Images*. This is no small task! Over and over again she has been heard saying to radiology nurses, "Don't worry, I will help. Just send me something, anything." Her encouragement is truly admirable. For those of us who have published in *Images* we know what a pleasure it is to work with Linda.

Linda is a wonderful advocate for radiology nursing but she also knows the value of interdisciplinary input. She has welcomed information from radiologic technologists, advanced nurse practitioners and physicians. Linda's vision for *Images* has been a major factor in the growth of the journal and the ARNA Board of Directors is always delighted to get a request from Linda for funding for more pages. The recent 20th Anniversary issue should make us all feel proud of ARNA. *Well done, Linda.* I was especially happy to see the nice contribution by our nurse colleague, Mina Karamshi of London. Also, Dr. Akin's statement of the value of the radiology nurse was heart warming and much appreciated.

If you haven't taken the time to write for *Images*, I strongly suggest that you give it a try. Writing is a professionally rewarding experience and an opportunity for growth. The topics that come to mind are endless. If you can't think of one, send me an e-mail or give me a call. I have dozens of ideas in search of an author. Or perhaps you have a unique radiograph, personal story, clinical tip, or puzzle to send; those are wonderful, too.

Again, CONGRATULATIONS to Linda Strangio and the editorial board for such a superb issue.

e-mail: kagross@home.com



Certification Examination For Radiologic Nursing

Passing Candidates - August 18, 2001

Bonnie L. Abrams New Jersey
 Raymond G. Ambrose New Jersey
 Deborah A. Ansley Missouri
 Karen Casey Barefoot North Carolina
 Jeanne M. Braun New York
 Dawn M. Byrne New Jersey
 Gloria L. Callan Pennsylvania
 Karen Calvo Michigan
 Mary F. Cramsey Pennsylvania
 Bernice D. Denbow New York
 Tammy L. Drummond New York
 Patricia M. Faucett Georgia
 Izabella S. Fricano New York
 Jennifer Harrison Georgia
 Sharon L. Huffman Kansas
 Elizabeth B. Jordan West Virginia
 Barbara A. Keady New Hampshire
 Virginia LaFaro New York
 Denise Lieberstein Tennessee
 Melinda Lisi Ohio
 Linda McDonald Pennsylvania
 Rita McDonough New Jersey
 Linda Meunier Florida
 Jeanne T. Mills North Carolina
 Rebecca L. Morgan Maryland
 Rosemary S. Olson Minnesota
 Suzanne M. Oram Massachusetts
 Daria Peifer New Jersey
 Pamela S. Roth Missouri
 Stacy L. Rowland South Carolina
 David E. Scarborough Washington
 Angela Eileen Shaw Maryland
 Martha L. Slonim Colorado
 Catherine Sredzienski North Carolina
 Debra Strom Washington
 Annette Tanganelli New Jersey
 Shelly K. Tucker Georgia
 Elena Vicente California
 Mary Ann Wakefield Ohio
 David S. Weaver New Jersey
 Janet Whaley Montana
 Loretta F. Wyland Pennsylvania
 Glenda J. Zinsitz Texas

congratulations
CRN's

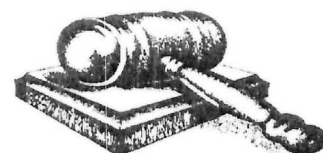
PRESIDENT'S CORNER

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..."

For some reason this is the thought that kept coming to mind as I prepared to write my message to you for *RN News*. We have all been forever affected by the recent attack on America – some of us very personally, many of us professionally, and all of us inherently as human beings. Looking beyond the pain and destruction of the September 11th tragedy, however, is what we must all attempt to do as Americans and allies around the world unite to demonstrate our solidarity to determine the "best" over the "worst." It is with this scope of vision that we can generate some light from within the depths of an otherwise dark picture.

This is not so different from what we do as radiology nurses every day. Though our interventions may not be on the grand scale of a national tragedy, their importance to the patients and families with whom we work and provide services is profound. From our detailed assessments to provide safe patient care to our "caring enough" to remember that post-procedure follow-up phone call, all contribute to guarantee the patients that they are the most important part of the equation in achieving our patient-centered outcomes. Patients come to us with questions they don't know how to ask, to have tests about which they have had no explanation, and for diagnoses that they would have preferred not to discover. We provide listening ears to those who have no one to hear them, we comfort the lonely, we may give a smile to someone who has only been confronted with bureaucracy in the system, and we often are the sounding board for the frustrated and angry. But, in each case, were we not there, their outcome (or their day – even their lives) might be completely different. **WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!** Hang on to that thought during your long, stressful working day and it will help to make "...the best of times..."

Colleen M. Sasso, RN, BSN, CRN



from the Editor's desk

When is it the right time to end your commitment to a project? Sometimes the decision is simple - the right time is when the project is finished, when you have reached a deadline. At other times, the right time comes when you have attained satisfaction that *you* have given your best effort to that project. This is the right time for me. I have decided that this newsletter should go on under the leadership of a new Editor. My family is parenting its fourth generation and I would like to spend more time with family matters.

My role as Editor of *RN News* has been extremely rewarding. Because I accepted this committee chairmanship in January, 1998 I have been able to fulfill my personal goal of trying my hand at writing. Also, I like to play mental games with myself involving grammatical structure and punctuation. Reading the works submitted to me for consideration in this publication has allowed me to exercise my brain by arranging the works in a suitable format. The SCVIR and RSNA meetings and educational programs I attended gave me the opportunity to meet wonderful radiology nurses from all over the United States and a few from other parts of the world. I have had the advantage of being up to date on many subjects and events - I learned about them before you did! And, I was in contact with many exceptional leaders and leaders-to-be in ARNA.

I hope this description sounds intriguing to you because I want to let you know that this creates an opening in the ARNA organization for a new Editor. Professional writing experience is not needed but you should have a good command of the English language and its grammar structure. I have found that e-mail is a great way to communicate with the membership of ARNA but not everyone is comfortable with this. I produce the newsletter in "Microsoft Publisher" format but that is not a requirement - whatever you have at your disposal that can make this work would be considered. Please contact me; or *Barbara Sargent (who is the liaison Board Member to this newsletter - see information below); or *any* of the Board Members if you would like to be considered for this position. I, also, am available if you would like to bounce around your thoughts or questions about taking on this project. My support will be available when the right person is selected so you do not have to fear doing this job alone.

- Helen O'Daly
Editor, *RN News*

*Barbara E. Sargent, RN, MBA

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION.....

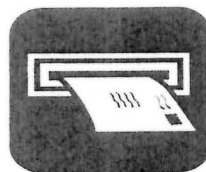
Nurses House is an organization that provides personal guidance and financial assistance to registered nurses who are in need as a result of illness, injury or disability. Nurses House has developed a website to improve communications with nurses in need and friends who wish to help their colleagues in nursing throughout the nation. Their website is: <http://www.NursesHouse.org>

Nurses in dire financial circumstances who apply for help at the new website will receive application materials by return email. Requests for assistance may also be submitted and returned by regular mail. All guest identities are reviewed anonymously by Nurses House Service Program Council of registered nurses.

- submitted by Colleen Sasso, President, ARNA



*Please note the address
for the purpose of
conducting business
with ARNA:*
820 Jorie Blvd.
Oak Brook, IL 60523



RN NEWS

**RN NEWS IS
PUBLISHED
QUARTERLY TO KEEP
ARNA MEMBERS
BETTER INFORMED**

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comments to:

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CEU Update

Dear ARNA Members:

On behalf of the Continuing Education Committee, I would like to inform you that we are hard at work on the application process for ARNA to become a CEU approver/provider. When we have successfully completed the application process with the ANCC (American Nurse's Credentialing Center), ARNA members will benefit greatly. Local chapters will be able to apply to ARNA for continuing education credits for programs held at the local level. ARNA will also be able to grant credits for any educational offerings they provide such as the annual meeting and self-directed learning packets.

The application for approver/provider status has been a long process, which has taken years. Committee members have volunteered their time and energy to make this goal a reality. ARNA originally applied to ANCC in 1999 but was denied. We were obligated to pay a fee at that time. The CEU Committee went back to the drawing board to address the many recommendations from the ANCC.

On October 29 & 30, 2001, representatives from ANCC & ARNA will meet at the ARNA executive office in Oak Brook, IL to examine all of the required documentation the committee has gathered. One day will be spent assessing approver status and one day will be spent assessing provider status. ARNA is also responsible to pay a fee of \$6,500 for the application and to take care of the transportation & lodging for the ANCC employees.

It is important for ARNA members to know that the success of this application process is a top priority for the ARNA Board of Directors. The CEU Committee has worked hard to make sure that all of the ANCC recommendations have been addressed. We will know the outcome of the visit soon.

- submitted by Melissa Holbrook, MSN, ANP-C
Continuing Education Committee Chairperson

Kate Little, RN, CRN
Lynn Reid, RN, MSN, CRN
Cindy Sanders, RN
Continuing Education Committee members

LOOKING FOR A STIMULATING PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGE?

The Canadian Nurses Association would like to promote their latest publication, *From Silence to Voice: What Nurses Know and Must Communicate to the Public* by the well-known American journalists Bernice Buresh and Suzanne Gordon. This publication has been awarded the American Journal of Nursing (AJN) 2000 Book of the Year Award in the Professional Development category and has been adopted as required reading material in a growing number of university nursing programs across North America.

If you would like to promote this book to ARNA's members by writing a review or an article in ARNA's newsletter, *RN News*, or ARNA's journal, *Images*, a complimentary review copy of the book is available as well as electronic artwork, authors' photos, etc. This might be just the incentive and direction to help you take the plunge into the world of professional publication while learning the authors' perspectives on how to change the way the workplace, patients and the media view nursing by making them aware of the wealth of expertise and knowledge nurses have to offer.

If you are interested in this professional opportunity, please contact Colleen M. Sasso via e-mail at: CMSasso@aol.com for contact information.

Don't let this opportunity to enhance your own professional growth and development pass you by. This is a first come, first served chance! Looking forward to hearing from you.

- submitted by Colleen Sasso, President, ARNA

RADIOLOGY NURSE Helpline

**PLEASE CONSIDER SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES
WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES**

The issue that concerns me is power injecting through central lines. I am in need of some sort of validation for not injecting with the Medrad via long-term central lines, medi-ports etc. Some people feel that adjusting the rate to the type of catheter is all that is necessary. I would like to locate some type of documentation. One of the nurses feels that I create too high a PSI by hand pushing through a central line because I use 60cc syringes instead of 30cc syringes when giving 100 to 150cc -hand push. Does anyone have any suggestions for me, even topics or places to research? I cannot find any documentation in our Medrad injection manual regarding central lines.

Thanks for any suggestions

Cathy

CTaff1992@aol.com

I am seeking information on the current recommended treatment for ***contrast extravasation***, immediate and follow up. Our Doctors are currently having us apply heat and massage. We also are looking for recommended follow up. I appreciate your time and energy in responding to me.

Thank You

Melanie Kappelman RN, CCRN
Iowa Lutheran Radiology

KAPPELMO@ihs.org

**Schedule for the CRN exams in
2002 :**

- ★ Feb 23, 2002 (application deadline Dec 31, 2001)
- ★ Aug 17, 2002 (application deadline June 30, 2002)

★

And in 2003:

- ★ Feb 22, 2003 (application deadline Dec 31, 2002)
- ★ Aug 16, 2003 (application deadline June 30, 2003)

★ To obtain an application or check on the testing schedule, contact
Professional Testing Corporation
1350 Broadway - 17th Floor

ARNA Core Curriculum for Radiological Nursing

Would you like a great Radiology Nursing reference book for yourself or your department? I highly recommend the ARNA Core Curriculum Book. I purchased several copies for my staff to use. It is a comprehensive resource for new or seasoned radiology nurses. The Core Curriculum covers many topics including, contrast media, MRI, CT, Diagnostic Radiology, vascular procedures, pediatrics, cardiac catheterization, conscious sedation, and many more.

As an ARNA member you may purchase the Core Curriculum at the special price of \$75 (non-members may purchase it for \$110). The charge for shipping is \$5. This book will assist you with your practice and the book proceeds are used for educational meetings. The next meeting will be April 7 - 11, 2002 in Baltimore, where there will be many excellent speakers with a variety of topics.

To purchase your copy, please contact the ARNA office at 630-571-9072; or e-mail arna@rsna.org; or fax your request to: 630-571-7837.

Barbara Sargent, RN, BSN, MBA
Clinical Nurse Manager, Radiology
UW Health, University of Wisconsin
Hospital & Clinics
600 Highland Avenue, D4/370
Madison, WI 53792-3252

To Chris,

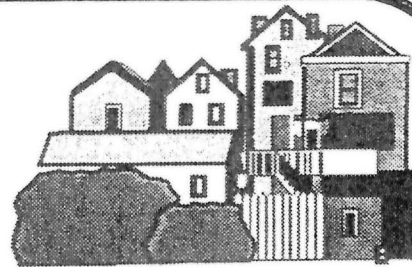
*...way back here and out of sight
there is a note I wish to write....*

In the past I have published acknowledgement of the assistance given to me by my daughter, Chris, who is not a Radiology Nurse but who knows my mind, sometimes I think better then I do! She has spent her precious time assisting me in reading over the material for this newsletter to assure that it is suitable for publication. I have relied on Chris to pick up little errors and to make suggestions as to how things could be improved. She has always been available when deadlines were short and I want to publicly express my appreciation to this talented, generous young woman.

Helen O'Duffy



From GRASSROOTS to CAPITOL HILL



*National Federation for Specialty
Nursing Organizations (NFSNO) invites you
to attend the*

2002 Nurse in Washington Internship

March 10-13, 2002

Madison Hotel • Washington, DC

In this four-day intensive internship, endorsed by ANA, you'll learn about the legislative process, the political and economic forces driving health care policy and delivery, and how to become politically active. You'll even spend a day on Capitol Hill visiting senators and representatives!

Two scholarships are available for members of NFSNO member organizations: one from W.B. Saunders Company and the editors of *Policy and Politics for Nurses*, and one from the Federation. Apply now!

Early registration fees are \$645 for members of NFSNO member organizations, \$695 for SNA/ANA members, and \$745 for nonmembers. Special student rates for entry level programs are available at: \$450 for NSNA members and \$550 for non-NSNA members. Space is limited, so register early.



For more information, contact NFSNO:
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nfsno@ajj.com