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Summer 2007

Save the Date

2007 Fall Symposium

October 6-7, 2007

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
Minneapolis, MN

\$124 single/double

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RADIOLOGICAL
NURSES ASSOCIATION

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Vision

President's Message

Editor's Note: This message was presented at the ARNA Annual Convention held March 1-6, 2007, in Seattle, WA.

Thank you, Patrick, members of the Board, Mr. Dancy and staff of Dancy, Puetz & Associates, my fellow radiology nurses, guests. It is with excitement and enthusiasm that I stand before you today and assume the office of President of ARNA. When I was mentioning to a dear friend and member of our local chapter that I still had to write this speech and was unsure of what to say, she very wisely said, "you're going to set the tone and direction for ARNA for the next year." I thought about that for a while and realized I needed to reflect on where we've been before I can think about where to go in the future.

Last year ARNA held its first very successful self-sponsored convention in Las Vegas and celebrated its silver anniversary as an organization. I, too, celebrated an anniversary last year, 30 years since I graduated from nurses' training. We've both weathered the years fairly well and have come back even stronger, wiser, and better equipped to face what lies ahead. We've evolved from a "grass roots" operation to a full-fledged professional association that is recognized by the American Nurses Association (ANA) with the publishing of the *Scope and Standards of Practice for Radiology Nursing*. This convention will also see the recording of the Certification Preparation Course, another important milestone on our path of growth and development. The second edition of the *Core Curriculum* is in the final stages of editing and will soon go to the publishers. With all these important projects nearing completion, what's left to accomplish? What is the tone and direction for the next year?

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Kathy Scheffer, MN, RN, CRN
President

Immediate Past President's Message

It's customary for the President to sum up the events of the past year in which he/she served. I can't imagine a more amazing time to have been involved with ARNA and find myself very fortunate to have served as your President this past year.

The year started off with the realization of a dream in which we held our 25th Anniversary Annual Convention in Las Vegas. Your Board took a tremendous risk in stepping out on our own to test our skills as an organization and to test our strength as an educational provider. We passed that test with flying colors. I am still overwhelmed with the response of members attending the convention and giving us the feedback we need to provide you with the topics you want to hear about.

During the year, we continued to move forward with the second edition of the *Core Curriculum*, published position statements, continued to grow the membership, continued to provide the members with the CRN review course, and continued to plan for the future. I am very excited to see how the future unfolds having been a part of planning the future of ARNA.

I want to thank all the members of the Board in which I have served and will continue to serve in my year as Immediate Past President. I was fortunate to learn from strong ARNA nursing leaders such as Kate Little, Delma Armstrong, my leadership mentors, Paulette Snoby and our association management leader, Belinda Puetz. It can be amazing when you take on a leadership role and hear the words of your predecessors come out of your mouth. I have also had the pleasure of serving on the Board with Rhonda Caridi,

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Patrick Glickman, BSN, RN, CRN
Immediate Past President

Editor's Note

Delma Armstrong, BSN, RN, CRN

2007 is the year to make ARNA *your* organization. ARNA is going strong, as witnessed by the more than 500 of us who were able to attend the 26th Annual Convention in Seattle, March 1-6, held in conjunction with the Society for Interventional Radiology (SIR) and Association of Vascular and Interventional Radiographers (AVIR) meetings. ARNA's membership now tops 2,000 – for a group this size to attract over 25% of its members to the annual convention is phenomenal. Your attendance speaks to our need as radiology nurses to identify with our “professional tribe.” And from what I see, this tribe is knowledgeable, experienced, curious, and outspoken.

You, ARNA members, have asked for more and ARNA continues to provide. At the annual convention, the creation of a mid-year continuing education offering was announced. Please save the date this fall for ARNA's first Fall Symposium – a short conference that is designed to better meet our needs for education and networking – a meeting between meetings for us to get to know each other better, collaborate, and expand the knowledge base of radiology nursing. An additional tribunal, if you will.

Also at the annual convention, the creation of an Evidence-Based Practice Committee was announced by incoming President Kathy Scheffer. I encourage any and all of you experts to fill out the application for this Committee. If you want ARNA to step up and meet your needs as practitioners, then you need to help fill the knowledge gap for ARNA – in addition to this new committee, you can volunteer to teach all or part of the CRN Review (Master Faculty are being solicited now), write a Fast Fact sheet (the template is available from the National Office), join a Special Interest Group (or create one if there isn't one to meet your special needs), get involved in your local chapter, and sign up for the ARNA listserve. Last but not least, consider writing a quick article for your newsletter – a practice update or conundrum, a news item, something cool that happened to you at work (we love to tell each other stories about our interesting patients or unusual cases – write it down and send it in). There is no special format to be followed or topic to be considered. If it interests you, it will probably interest the rest of the tribe.

In short, *participate*. ARNA is committed to providing support to members and associates in radiology nursing everywhere. The radiology nursing body of knowledge grows daily as our specialty adapts to the technologically-driven age that we practice in. ARNA members are on the cutting edge of this body of knowledge, incorporating best practice into patient care around the world. *We are the authorities* on everything pertaining to radiology nursing. Step up and show off your knowledge!

Reasons to be an ARNA Volunteer

Wanting to grow professionally, I joined ARNA about six years ago. I was impressed with the information that came in what is now known as the *Journal of Radiology Nursing (JRN)*. The journal contained information on procedures I was not familiar with and I used it to study for the certification exam. Thanks to *JRN* and the *Core Curriculum for Radiological Nursing*, I became a certified radiological nurse.

One issue of *JRN* contained a sign-up sheet for two different task forces that ARNA was trying to form. I thought it would be a good experience for me, so I signed up for both task forces, hoping they would take me for either job. About a day or two later, I got an e-mail from some guy named Pat Glickman, welcoming me onto the Orientation Task Force. Okay - I wonder what I have to do for this? Then, about a week later, some

lady named Kathy Sheffer contacted me and welcomed me to the Certification Prep Course Task Force. Both teams? Well, I can probably do that, I thought.

Long story short - Pat and Kathy are well-known to the ARNA members as our Immediate Past President and the current President. So I got to meet both of them personally. Big deal, eh? Yes, it *is* a big deal. The task forces have both taken a few years to grow and develop, and I have grown and developed personally and professionally through my contact with them and their leadership, as well as the other great nurses on the task forces. I have met many fantastic nurses, made many great friends, got the opportunity to present a speech at the national convention (well, several, really). The Task Force members got to see New Orleans before it blew away; we got to stay in the

Stardust Hotel and Casino before it was razed; and we spent a great week in the fish-throwing town of Seattle. I got to throw and catch the fish, too!

I have also learned so much that has helped me in my everyday job, too. I have become a good resource for others thanks to ARNA's encouragement and all its resource materials. ARNA needs help to grow professionally, too. I encourage you to take a deep breath and volunteer. It is a great way to learn and grow. And who, knows? Maybe Delma and I will let you join our conga line at the next convention.

Ellen F. Lash, RN, CRN, CVN
Sarasota, FL

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

I look to this year's theme for direction- *Enhancing Safe Practices Through Technology in Radiology Nursing*. As we look to our nation's healthcare dilemma and the recent publishing of the United States Pharmacopeia's (USP) study on medication error rates and the part that radiology departments played in those numbers, we have no choice but to focus on patient safety and our part in it. Our Evidence-Based Practice Committee is a step in the right direction. We must focus our attention and energies on what we do best—being the patient's advocate while he/she is in our care. ARNA needs to be a leader in the National Patient Safety (NPS) goals and how they affect our departments and workplaces. We need to guide our coworkers, both medical and technical, in realizing the importance of carrying out these protocols and guidelines that have been proven, through evidence-based practices, to reduce errors and save lives. I want this next year to be a challenge to all of us to find ways to make a difference in the way we deliver care and

to use evidence-based practices to improve the clinical outcomes and ensure safety to patients, coworkers, and ourselves.

As our oath of office aptly names it - to be President of ARNA is to be the “chief volunteer in an army of volunteers.” As your chief volunteer, I pledge this year - 2007- to be the year of patient advocacy through evidence-based practices and enhanced patient safety. May we all continue to grow and develop, as ARNA has, and together reach new levels of authority as the voice of radiology nursing in America.

Kathy Scheffer, MN, RN, CRN
President

The Joint Commission Launches New Brand Identity

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) has shortened its name to The Joint Commission and has unveiled its new Web site. The Web site reflects The Joint Commission's new brand and logo, as well as its new tagline, "Helping Health Care Organizations Help Patients."

The new brand reflects The Joint Commission's continuing efforts to improve the value of accreditation and its utility as a mechanism for improving the quality and safety of patient care.

For more information about The Joint Commission, visit www.jointcommission.org

Educational Opportunities

Contact your Abbott Vascular Rep for a one-hour course on manual compression after arterial or venous access. You can contact your rep toll free at (800) 227-9902.

Stress Testing: The Role of the Radiology Nurse can be accessed from the ARNA Web site (www.arna.net).

The U. S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health released a new accredited continuing education program for nursing professionals that has been endorsed by the American Nurses Association (ANA). Entitled *Culturally Competent Nursing Care: A Cornerstone of Caring* and provided at no cost, this course is designed to help nurses integrate cultural competency awareness, knowledge, and skills to more effectively treat increasingly diverse patient populations. It is a Web-based training course available at www.thinkculturalhealth.org. The course is accredited for up to nine hours through the American Nurses Credentialing Center. For more information please e-mail contact@thinkculturalhealth.org

Core Curriculum Update

Work toward completion of the second edition of the *Core Curriculum* continues diligently. The many authors and peer reviewers have been hard at work with this daunting task. There will be 23 chapters in the Core with this edition. Fifteen of those have been completed and submitted to the National Office for final review prior to going to the publisher. The final eight chapters are well on their way to completion. It is with great

anticipation that we project this publication to be ready for the members by spring of 2008.

If you have any questions concerning the *Core Curriculum* update, you may contact Colleen M. Sasso, BSN, RN, CRN, Editor, *Core Curriculum* (2nd edition) at angelsabide@sbeglobal.net

New Members of the American Radiological Nurses Association

ARNA would like to acknowledge the following new members:

Elizabeth M. Abril Tucson, AZ	Jeanne R. Barber Huntington Beach, CA	Karen Barylak Waukesha, WI	Loren G. Bogaard Seattle, WA
Whitney Albright Greenwood, MO	Sarah Barron Williamsville, NY	Lisa Baszynski Solon, OH	Linda L. Bollinger Cape Girardeau, MO
Danise P. Archer Windsor, VA	Agnes T. Bartek Sterling, VA	Rhonda Beiley Torrance, CA	Terry Bradford Pataskala, OH
Patty J. Armond Sacramento, CA	Bridget M. Barglett Hillsboro, MO	Renee Bezair Seal Beach, CA	Albert Brown Seattle, WA
Cynthia Arvin Falling Waters, WV	Susan Barton Rutland, VT	Patricia Blair Dexter, MO	Elizabeth A. Broyles Irving, TX

American Radiological Nurses Association (ARNA)

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ARNA Mission Statement

The mission of the American Radiological Nurses Association is to foster the growth of radiology nurses who advance the standard of care.

Chapter News

From Washington State to Maine – What's Happening in our Local Chapters

Blue Ridge Chapter – Charlottesville, VA

Vickie Taylor, RN
Chapter President-Elect

The Blue Ridge Chapter (BRC) in Virginia is fairly new. BRC strives to have an educational session at each of its quarterly meetings and to arrange an all-day seminar each year.

On March 6, 2007, Lynchburg General Hospital arranged for a vendor from Kyphon to speak about Kyphoplasty.

The University of Virginia (UVA) then co-hosted an all-day seminar on March 24 on the topic of procedural sedation. The speaker was Michael Kost, acclaimed author of *The Manual of Conscious Sedation*. 167 nurses, physicians, dentists, and radiologic technologists from Virginia Beach, Northern Virginia, Richmond, Charlottesville, and Roanoke (and points in between) attended the sedation seminar. Attendees work in a variety of settings ranging from radiology, cath labs, electrophysiology labs, endoscopy suites, ORs, out-patient surgery, emergency room, adult and pediatric ICUs, and out-patient clinics. All of the evaluations were very positive. Participants earned 8 contact hours for the seminar. A summary and pictures of the event are on the UVA Web site:

<http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/radiology/ARNAConference.cfm>

On April 25, the University of Virginia School Of Nursing sponsored a McGhee Lecture. UVA asked nursing organizations that offer certification in their specialty to have a table and poster set up for the hour break. BRC President Karen Sledd developed a poster that described ARNA and the CRN certification process. There was also a new Blue Ridge Chapter of ARNA banner for this event. The banner and the poster that were used on the day of the lecture can be seen in the slide show (via the Web site link above).

The next meeting of the Blue Ridge Chapter was held on May 8, 2007. Karen Sledd arranged for the speaker. On August 14th a vendor will speak on adenosine cardiac stress MRI.

The Blue Ridge Chapter President is Karen Sledd from Roanoke, VA, and the President-Elect is Vickie Taylor of Charlottesville, VA.

Grand Canyon State Chapter - Arizona

Deborah Kirkpatrick, BSN, RN, CRN
Chapter President

The Grand Canyon State Chapter is *radiating excellence* about our accomplishments for 2007. During our second annual Radiology Nurses Day Celebration, we honored our founding president with a scholarship established in her name: *The Carolyn Bennett CRN Scholarship Award*. This award was presented to a deserving radiology nurse who showed commitment to certification in the exciting profession of radiology nursing. We also recognized one outstanding nurse in our chapter as Arizona's first Radiology Nurse of the Year! Our Web site (azradiologynurse.net) fuels our 65+ members with communication and opportunities. We continue to offer new member incentives to join our chapter, along with free contact hours for the quarterly seminars we provide. We are dedicated to enhancing the careers of our members and the lives of our patients. Visit us at azradiologynurse.net

Greater Tampa Bay Chapter – Tampa, FL

Ellen Lash, RN, C, CRN
Chapter Secretary

Carol Peterson, BSN, RN, ACLS
Chapter President

The Greater Tampa Bay Radiological Nurses Association (GTBRNA) is pleased to announce that after re-instituting the almost defunct chapter this past September, we are now up to 22 paid members from Key West to Spring Hill on the West Coast of Florida, with additional new faces appearing at each successive meeting! Our illustrious leader, Carol Peterson, has worked tirelessly to get ideas and speakers for each meeting. The March meeting included a presentation from member and secretary, Ellen Lash, on contrast and JCAHO radiology compliance issues that were talked about at the annual convention. We always encourage ARNA national membership for the great educational resources and opportunities to grow professionally by volunteering for a task force or committee and keep members posted on the next ARNA convention or symposium. Encouraging members to certify in radiology nursing is always a topic of discussion. GTBRNA has a long way to go in terms of growing, but we are definitely off to a great start! Way to go, Carol Peterson!

We have evening meetings every other month to share ideas and offer contact hours with topics suggested by our members. This year, speakers have discussed power injectable ports, pedi-tricks for sedation, contrast administration, and cardiac CT angiogram protocols. We are looking forward to more get-togethers this fall. For more information, please contact Carol Peterson at Carol.Peterson@Moffitt.org

New Jersey Chapter

New Jersey radiology nurses: We know you are out there! The New Jersey Chapter needs you - for ACLS - Advanced Chapter Life Support! The "airway" is established (we are an ARNA chapter), your presence is the "breath" of new ideas and experiences that we need. The "circulation" of any radiology nursing gathering is the networking. Let's get together to put these ABCs to work. We can get to know each other, share ideas, earn radiology nursing education credits, and have fun. Let's perform CPR on our chapter. Contact Denise Ryan at dsr222@msn.com

New Maine Chapter Forming

Carol Fortier, BSN, RN, CRN
Elsworth, ME

Our first informational and organizational meeting was held on Saturday, April 7, 2007, at Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, ME. The program included networking and identifying resources and support for Maine radiology nurses. Carol Fortier, BSN, RN, CRN, is the driving force behind the new Maine chapter. She can be contacted by e-mail at carolfortier@roadrunner.com

Northwest Chapter – covering the northwestern region of the US and Canada

Jil Hauge, BSN, RN, CRN
Chapter Member

All ARNA members living in Alaska, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and British Columbia are invited to join the Northwest Chapter of ARNA's (NWARNA) Web group. NWARNA's Web group members share information, ask questions, offer new ideas, and can post regional education events. We plan our regional meetings and post the dates at this site.

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Colleen Sasso, ARNA's 2007 Radiology Nurse of the Year

Colleen Sasso, BSN, RN, selected as ARNA's Radiology Nurse of the Year for 2007, was nominated for this honor by both her co-workers and her chapter (Golden Gate).

Over 22 years ago, Colleen became the first registered nurse assigned to the radiology department of the San Francisco Veteran's Administration Medical Center. She has been a staunch patient advocate, passionate in her focus on quality nursing care and patient safety. In the eyes of her co-workers and management, Colleen models excellence in radiology nursing daily.

Colleen's workplace is a research leader affiliated with the University of California in San Francisco. She works with cutting-edge radiologists and, as a result, keeps her knowledge base as current as possible. She, in turn, shares this excitement for learning with the rest of her team. She is a mentor to new staff and nursing students and supports her team members by encouraging them to excel in nursing care, become involved professionally in the Golden Gate Chapter, and seek certification in radiology nursing.

Colleen assists the Radiology Division Chiefs at the VA in writing and reviewing policies and procedures and supports her organization's adherence to radiology nursing standards. She has also served as a resource and consultant to nurses throughout the VA, the largest national healthcare system in the country, and as a radiology nurse expert witness in legal cases.

Colleen is a Past President of ARNA (2001) and current Editor of the *Core Curriculum for Radiology Nursing* (slated for publication later this year). She is very involved with the Golden Gate Chapter and coordinates its Annual Fall Symposium, recruiting radiology experts from various subspecialties to share their knowledge and enthusiasm.

On a personal level, Colleen promotes and educates the public on organ and tissue donation for the California Transplant Donor Network. Her involvement began eight years ago when her oldest daughter, Sharon, became an organ donor after dying suddenly of a closed head injury. Colleen honors her daughter's memory by being an active volunteer with the Transplant Donor Network and serving on the Board of Directors of the Network in her region.

Colleen's passion for radiology nursing pushes her to create, maintain, and defend the essence of nursing within an evolving and highly technological environment. She embodies the balance of science and art, compassion and care, and knowledge and strength that exemplify the best of radiology nursing. Thanks for leading the way, Colleen!

ARNA would also like to acknowledge the other nominees of this award: Delma Armstrong, BSN, RN, CRN, Chapel Hill, NC, and Ron Wardrobe, RN, CRN, PALS, ACLS, Baltimore, MD.

Chapter News

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and post the dates at this site. Membership to the Weblog is by invitation only. Please e-mail jjhauge@wavecable.com to receive your invitation. It's free to join. There is no spam on this site.

If you're interested in joining NWARNA, please contact Jil Hauge, BSN, RN, CRN, NWARNA Web group moderator. NWARNA members host regional educational meetings that have been held in Idaho; Portland; Victoria and Vancouver, BC; Spokane; Bellingham; Olympia; and the Seattle/Tacoma area. Membership is spread out so we welcome nurses from a wide area. We try to meet twice a year: spring and fall. We've been together as a chapter for almost 20 years. And don't forget, Kathy Scheffer, ARNA President, was a founding member of this group. Get to know her better by joining.

Triangle Area Radiology Nurses Association – Raleigh/Durham, NC
Richard Scibilia, RN
Chapter President

Triangle Area Radiology Nurses (TARNA) has met twice since the



Colleen Sasso
ARNA's 2007 Radiology Nurse of the Year

holidays. In one meeting, a local radiologist spoke on the pre-, intra-, and post-procedural care of patients having uterine fibroid embolization. Our last meeting was sponsored by Abbott Vascular and offered a program on manual compression after arterial or venous femoral access. This program offered 1.0 contact hours for nurses and was free of charge. The group also discussed topics that were offered at the annual convention. TARNA was well represented at the ARNA Annual Convention in Seattle, with five members (including two Past Presidents and the national Treasurer) in attendance. At the annual business meeting, TARNA was presented with a plaque commemorating its formation. There will be no TARNA meeting in April, as TARNA members were encouraged to attend the Carolinas Chapter education day at Rex Hospital in Raleigh, NC, on Saturday, April 28, 2007.

Don't see your chapter news here? That's easy to fix. Contact Delma Armstrong, *Vision* Newsletter Editor, at delma_armstrong@med.unc.edu or the ARNA National Office, arna@puetzamc.org. I will even do the writing for you if you put me in touch with the folks who know what is going on.

Legislative Update

Wendy Hamlin, BSN, JD
Chair, Public Policy Committee

I was in the midst of researching two other public policy topics when I came across an article about the proposed Office of the National Nurse (ONN). I asked my colleagues if any of them had heard of this office - nobody had. I am usually very aware of legislation/ political movements in nursing and was amazed that there seemed to be so little awareness of this proposed office.

The campaign for ONN was started at a grassroots level by Terri Mills, RN, in May of 2005. She founded an organization that led to the development of the National Nursing Network Organization (NNNO). The ONN would be responsible for focusing on providing the public with preventative healthcare resources. It would also provide tools to prevent diseases and manage chronic illness.

The campaign for ONN moved fairly quickly, resulting in the introduction of a bill to Congress in 2006. The bill was introduced by Representative, Lois Capp (D-CA), on March 8, 2006. It was introduced as H.R. 4903, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of the National Nurse.

As outlined in the bill, the duties of the National Nurse would be to

- 1) Carry out activities to encourage individuals to enter the nursing profession.
- 2) Carry out activities to encourage nurses to become educators in the schools of nursing.
- 3) Carry out activities to promote public health.
- 4) Conduct media campaigns and make personal appearances for the purpose of encouraging individuals to enter nursing and to become educators in schools of nursing.

The bill required that each year the National Nurse designate four methods of achieving better health that will be given priority by the National Nurse. Based on these priorities, the National Nurse will make grants to nonprofit

private entities to carry out projects for the purpose of educating the public on the annual health priorities. The bill also described how this would function on the state level with state coordinators and volunteer teams.

As a profession, nurses want to improve the nation's health but do not always agree on how to achieve it. For instance, the American Nurses Association (ANA) did not take a position either for or against the National Nurse proposal. They released a statement that basically stated the ANA respected the aims of the bills' proponents and agreed that nurses must take the lead in addressing challenges to nursing and health care. The ANA went on to say it believed that the real power to affect needed policy changes rested and will remain with the state and federal policymakers. For this reason, the ANA chose to remain focused on existing avenues toward change in nursing and health care.

All sessions of Congress last two years. At the end of each session, all proposed bills that have not passed are cleared from the books. This bill was cleared and, therefore, never became a law. In 2007's 110th Congress, the NNNO hopes the National Nurse Act will be reintroduced in the House of Representatives. If that occurs the next step would be to introduce an identical bill in the Senate.

All nurses need to be aware of this important possible National Nurse Office. Each individual nurse will have his/her own viewpoint on this office but the important point is that each nurse needs to make his/her viewpoint known. I encourage you to offer your opinion by contacting your state representative.

Reference

Stowkoski, L. (2007). *Moving forward with the office of the national nurse*. Retrieved April 3, 2007, from <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/551527?rss>

Immediate Past President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

Deb Beach, the amazing Sophie Jan, your new President Kathy Scheffer, your President Elect Sharon Lehmann, and my 'Philly Mafia' associates, Ginger Girard, Karen Green, and Tim McSorley. I would also like to thank Kathy Gross (past president and *Journal of Radiology Nursing* [JRN] editor) for calling me one day and asking me to consider running for a Board position. She continues to make ARNA proud with her work as a radiology nursing leader and for her work on the JRN. She continues to raise the bar on the content of material in our publication. All were influential in my ability to serve the members in the standard in which we should be accustomed to. All of them have served the members well and will continue to do so.

When I look back on these past several months, I look back fondly on the meetings, conference calls, correspondences, and support that we have

given ARNA, the Board, and each other as professionals. I spoke at the last meeting we had in Seattle, and in my outgoing speech, I wanted to let everyone know my take on what our mission is. In developing our long-term plan, I stated that I would like to have ARNA be to its members what the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) is to its members. From that came our goal to be the source of information when it comes to delivering care in any imaging environment. We have made tremendous strides in providing members that source of information and have several things in various stages to continue to support members and our colleagues in the imaging environment patient care.

This has been the most exciting and rewarding experience that I have had as a nurse. I encourage all of you to consider what the simple act of volunteerism can do for you in your personal and pro-

fessional life. All of you have something to offer the members. This is most evident by hundreds of e-mails we have received on the ARNA listserve that is up and running. The dialogue between the members is awesome, and when you volunteer, you are not in it alone. As a member of the Board for these past four years, I have been in great company, each of us at the wheel of this great ship guiding it to our goal of being your resource for nursing care in the field of radiology.

It has been my pleasure to serve.

Sincerely,

Patrick Glickman, BSN, RN, CRN
Immediate Past President



2007 ARNA Board of Directors

26th Annual Convention in Seattle a Huge Success

ARNA's 26th Annual Convention was held in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Society for Interventional Radiology (SIR) and Association of Vascular and Interventional Radiographers (AVIR) in Seattle, WA, March 1-6, 2007. The theme for this year's convention was *Enhancing Safe Practices Through Technology in Radiology Nursing*.

The 2007 program strove to advance the knowledge and skills related to radiology nursing practice, foster an environment enhancing personal and professional growth, and provide networking opportunities with peers on issues of common concern. Speakers represented top practitioners in radiology and radiological nursing from across the country. Topics provided up-to-the-minute knowledge and showcased future innovations in various radiologic subspecialties.

The chair of ARNA's Program Planning Committee is Margaret "Mag" Browne-McManus, BAHS, RN. Mag leads a stellar group of volunteers from across the country in recruiting speakers and topics and reviewing abstracts for posters and presentations. The Committee also ensures that the annual convention stays current, offers new insights, and reinforces established standards. Kudos to the Committee for putting together an outstanding program in Seattle!

The host chapter, Northwest Chapter of ARNA, hospitably invited all ARNA members to a reception on Friday night where information about the surrounding area was shared. They wanted us all to have a wonderful experience in their area. They also arranged for an optional dinner cruise in Seattle Harbor on Saturday night. The dinner cruise was a lot of fun – a great way to meet other radiology nurses, have a nice meal, and experience Seattle from an on-board perspective. Beware: Ellen Lash of Sarasota, FL, is looking for a few more dancers for our conga line in Washington, DC, in 2008, so practice!

The first day of program offerings on Friday, March 2, was held at the Washington Convention Center and Sheraton Seattle Hotel in conjunction with AVIR. One of the most popular sessions was the World Renowned Pike Market Fishmongers, who presented their winning business philosophy in a

multimedia presentation capped off by tossing fish (yup – the real thing) to radiology nurses and technologists who lined up in scores to get to catch a large, dead mackerel (okay, it might have been flounder). Lucky for us, the Fishmongers brought plenty of scaly assistants.

ARNA offered a special Orientation Program track for new nurses in separate sessions throughout the convention covering topics such as pharmacology, contrast, the role of the RN during procedures, and an overview of radiology. Also during the convention, ARNA participants were able to attend general sessions offered via AVIR and SIR in addition to the ARNA educational sessions. The opportunities to network and learn were seemingly endless.

ARNA's program also included sessions on various aspects of angiography, specific diseases and their diagnosis and treatment in radiology, several interventional radiology topics (including the delivery of babies in the angio suite), and current issues in clinical practice such as Universal Protocol, The Joint Commission, developing programs in various areas of practice, and combined imaging modalities (such as MR-IR). Also of interest were the Chapter Development Session and Special Interest Group meetings.

The final session showcased a fascinating presentation by a trauma surgeon from Baton Rouge, LA, about the impact of Hurricane Katrina in the areas surrounding New Orleans in the days before and after the devastating storm.

In 2006, the response to workshops held before and after the convention in Las Vegas was overwhelmingly positive, prompting ARNA to offer two optional workshops in Seattle. The Certification Preparation Course for radiologic nursing was again offered as a two-day course, and a management workshop was also held. These were both well-attended and received.

Whether you were able to bring back new practice techniques or confirm that your practice is successfully achieving optimum patient care goals, the ARNA 2007 convention was a success. Make plans to join us in Washington, DC, March 16-20!

Treasurer's Report for 2006

The year of 2006 was a very lucrative one for ARNA. We doubled our expected revenues and made a profit of \$175,000 in 2006. The pie charts below summarize the revenues and expenses for 2006 (see Figures 1 and 2).

There has been a huge financial growth in ARNA in 2006 compared to 2004 and 2005 (see Figure 3). This is largely because of three reasons: 1) the Annual Convention in Las Vegas where ARNA celebrated its 25th anniversary, 2) a huge membership growth, and 3) an educational grant from Bristol-Meyers Squibb Medical Imaging. The convention in Las Vegas was a huge success not only educationally but also financially. ARNA made a profit of \$100,000 at this annual convention. As for membership, the end of 2006 saw 1,952 members and we keep growing. The educational grant from Bristol-Meyers Squibb Medical Imaging went to a special project for nurses to earn contact hours. The Delaware Media Group created a Web-based continuing education program on *Stress Testing: The Role of the Radiology Nurse*. This program may be accessed at the ARNA Web site: www.arna.net

The plans for 2007 are intended to benefit ARNA as an organization and also you as a member. The orientation manual has been field-tested and publication is the next step. The Fall Symposium is a new addition to the events of ARNA, and we hope it will be a success. ARNA invites you to participate in this educational and networking opportunity. Some of the topics for the Symposium will focus on information technology, pediatrics, certification preparation, JCAHO issues, and leadership fundamentals. The Certification Preparation Course has been taped and will be placed into a CD-ROM format with PowerPoint slides and audio. These CD-ROMs will be for sale, and we hope that this option of independent learning will assist in the achievement of more certified radiology nurses. ARNA also hopes to advance technologically with its Web site. By signing up for the listserve, participating in a chat room for virtual meetings, reading the fast facts, and creating threads within the special interest group forums, ARNA members can ask questions and get answers quickly.

The monies earned for 2006 will be used in the future for the betterment of radiology nurses. We appreciate all your support in ARNA and hope that the years in the future will continue to be fruitful.

Diana Denz, BSN, RN, CRN
Treasurer

AMERICAN RADIOLOGICAL NURSES ASSOCIATION
2006 REVENUES

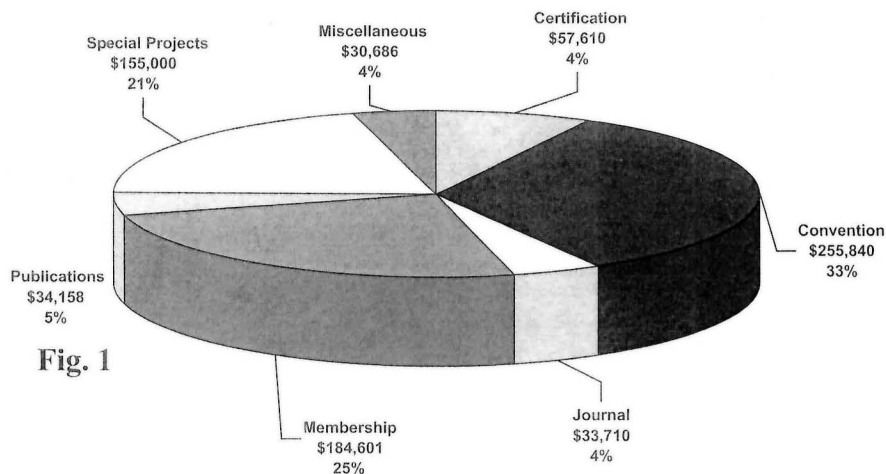


Fig. 1

AMERICAN RADIOLOGICAL NURSES ASSOCIATION
2006 EXPENSES

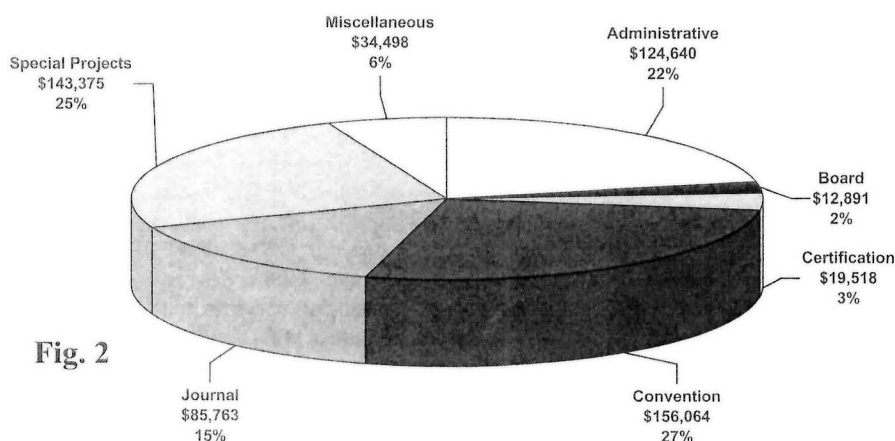


Fig. 2

American Radiological Nurses Association
3 Year Comparison

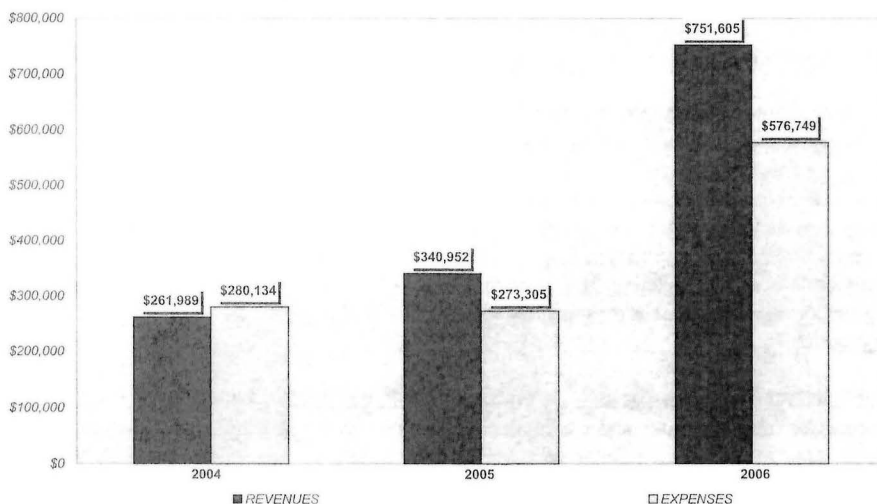


Fig. 3