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AMERICAN
RADIOLOGICAL
NURSES ASSOCIATION

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Vision

President's Message

Dear Fellow Imaging Nurses,

The holidays are behind us and a new year has arrived full of promise and renewed expectations for all of us. I hope you haven't broken your New Year's resolutions yet. The winter weather is in full swing and everyone is counting the days until spring arrives.



Since our last newsletter was released, I had the pleasure of attending the Radiology Society of North America's (RSNA) annual convention in Chicago. Over 60,000 professionals from around the world (11% were visiting from out of the country) attended the five-day convention. ARNA is a proud member of the Allied Sciences Consortium which includes 13 organizations that are connected to radiology in some manner. Every three years a theme is chosen that the consortium members use to deliver educational topics of interest to radiological professionals. The theme through 2009 is a focus on "safety in radiology." ARNA and the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) were asked to discuss radiology errors. I was able to deliver a presentation that focused on three national patient safety goals (NPSG) and the relevance to radiology departments, the roles of the radiology team, and some real examples of why these goals were instituted. The three I chose were

- NPSG 3—Labeling of All Medications On and Off the Sterile Field,
- NPSG 8A/B—Medication Reconciliation, and
- Universal Protocols.

The presentation was a good refresher for me and was well received by those who attended. I also had the opportunity to attend a quality roundtable session made up of ten radiologists, technologists, and administrators (I was the only nurse) who discussed ways RSNA could help promote quality standards both clinical and technical across the country. This session will be an ongoing taskforce that ARNA will be a part of and that will ensure we will be the voice of nurses and patients in imaging departments. The RSNA convention was a very rewarding experience and a great networking opportunity.

The ARNA Board was busy having a three-day strategic planning session with Glenn Tecker to review our plan and ensure we are leading efforts in the right direction for the future growth and development of ARNA. As spring approaches and our annual convention in Washington, DC, draws near, I encourage each and every one of you to become actively involved on departmental, local, and national levels. We all need to step up and be heard if the other imaging professionals are to recognize the value we represent in delivering quality and safe patient care in our technical environment. To have a say in our profession, we must be willing to engage in active participation to develop the standards of quality and safety that patients deserve.

So...as the politicians are hard at work trying to convince us why they should be the next President of the United States, so, too, must we be hard at work convincing our radiology colleagues of our importance and value to the imaging environment. As my tenure as your president draws to an end, I look back at what we have been able to accomplish this past year and believe we are headed in the right direction. We will continue to develop the Evidence-Based Practice Committee into a valu-

(continued on page 2)



Legislative Update

Lisa J. Revay, RN, CRN
Chair, Public Policy Committee

HEALTHY HOSPITALS ACT OF 2007 - (H.R. 1174)

This bill was introduced in the House of Representatives on February 16, 2007. Its purpose is to amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require public reporting of healthcare-associated infections data by hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers and to permit the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a pilot program to provide incentives to hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to eliminate the rate of occurrence of such infections.

Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) has become the dominant cause of hospital infections over the past 30 years. Hospital-acquired infections harm 1.7 million patients each year and kill nearly 100,000, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). An acquired infection can add \$150,000 to a medical bill per patient. Studies show that patients with MRSA infections are four times as likely to stay in the hospital two and a half times as long or die.

MRSA can spread from patient to patient via contact with unwashed hands, contaminated gloves, and medical equipment and can survive on cloth and plastic for up to 90 days (CDC). The *American Journal of Infection Control (AJIC)* reports that 70% of healthcare workers do not adhere to hand washing and sterilization procedures. Many hospitals are performing active surveillance cultures for MRSA upon admission to identify patients who are colonized with MRSA. Minnesota became the first state to mandate active surveillance.

Forty-five percent of hospitals are tracking infections within their walls. Most are focusing only on intensive care, surgical, or high-risk nursery patients. Currently, there are 20 states that have adopted laws requiring hospitals to report their patient infection rates (www.consumerunion.org). With the passage of this bill, it is believed that uniform and accurate public reporting of healthcare-associated infections by hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers will allow healthcare providers to target their efforts to reduce the occurrence of healthcare-associated infections, enhance consumer choice of healthcare providers, reduce healthcare costs, and save lives. Allegheny General Hospital in Pennsylvania reduced the rate of central line-acquired infections to almost zero within 90 days by educating and training healthcare staff on infection control. This reduction resulted in over \$2 million in savings over three years.

Strategies to prevent the spread of MRSA besides strict hand washing include active surveillance for MRSA; isolation and decolonization of MRSA carriers; implementation of gowns, gloves, and masks when treating MRSA-infected patients to prevent its spread to other patients; and routine decontamination of equipment that comes into contact with the patient.

Other suggestions in the radiology department include scheduling MRSA-infected patients at the end of the day to allow for a more thorough cleaning, never placing the chart of the MRSA patient on the bed for transport, and disinfecting all equipment after any patient (including doppler devices, blood pressure cuffs, pulse ox, and heart leads) with an approved MRSA decontamination solution. Overworked and limited staff make it difficult to disinfect equipment and procedure tables properly, but we can make the difference in a patient's outcome.

Suggested Readings

Centers for Disease Control. (2007). Healthcare-associated methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (HA-MRSA). Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa.html

Consumers Union. (2007). Groundbreaking report shows alarming MRSA infection rates at U.S. hospitals. Retrieved from http://www.ConsumersUnion.org/pub/core_health_care/004646.html

Healthy hospitals act of 2007 (H.R. 1174). (2007). Retrieved from <http://thomas.loc.gov>

President's Message *(continued from page 1)*

able resource for all members. We will truly fulfill our strategic goal to be the "voice of radiology nursing" now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Kathy Scheffer, MN, RN, CRN
President

PAD Coalition Holds Fourth Annual Meeting

Kathleen A. Gross, MSN, RN-BC, CRN
ARNA Liaison

The Peripheral Arterial Disease Coalition held its fourth annual meeting on September 18, 2007, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. It was a privilege to attend the meeting on behalf of all ARNA members. The Coalition has grown considerably in size since its inception in 2002 and accomplished more than its founders imagined possible in this short period of time. There are now 62 full members of the Coalition in addition to the other membership categories. I presented the Nominating Committee Report and Ballot for 2007 at the Annual Business Meeting.

The highlights of the 2007 PAD Coalition Annual Meeting included the following:

- ✓ The results of the PAD Coalition national survey were announced. According to this survey, three out of four people are not aware of the condition. This is in contrast to knowledge about stroke and heart disease. Respondents knew more about Lou Gehrig's Disease, multiple sclerosis, and cystic fibrosis than about PAD. The survey by Hirsch et al. is published in *Circulation: Journal of the American Heart Association*, October 30, 2007 (Volume 116, Issue 18). (An online version is available.)
- ✓ Members highlighted how their organizations had supported the work of the PAD Coalition and the Stay in Circulation Campaign.
- ✓ The PAD Education Network was launched. This initiative was developed to create a nationwide network of clinicians, hospitals, and health plans dedicated to PAD education and care. Among other benefits, members receive free clinical practice tools and patient resources, discounts on other resources, access to members-only websites, and free listing in an online directory of the PAD Coalition Education Network.
- ✓ The Best PAD Research Awards were presented to Matthew Allison, MD, MPH, from the University of California, San Diego, and to Andrew W. Bradbury, MD, University of Birmingham, UK. Dr. Allison and colleagues published a paper entitled "The Effect of Novel Cardiovascular Risk Factors on the Ethnic-Specific Odds for Atherosclerosis (MESA)" published in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, 2006, 48, 1190-1197. Dr. Bradbury and colleagues published a paper entitled "Bypass Versus Angioplasty in Severe Ischaemia of the Leg (BASIL): Multicentre, Randomized Control Trial" published in *The Lancet* 2005, 366, 1925-1934.
- ✓ The Stay in Circulation Community Service Award was awarded to the Spirit of Women® Health Network for their activities related to PAD education. The Day of Dance in 2007 was a resounding success. (See www.dayofdance.org for details related to 2008 activities.) Also see www.redshoeinitiative.org for information about the celebrity red shoe auction.
- ✓ After the completion of the Annual Business Meeting, PAD Coalition representatives went to a Congressional briefing on Capitol Hill. There, Phylcia Rashad (*The Cosby Show*) recounted a personal story about peripheral arterial disease. Senator Mike Crapo* (R-ID), co-chair of the 110th Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition also participated in this briefing and encouraged government, medical professionals, and industry to come together in the effort to improve the health of citizens. Coalition members then met with individual congressional representatives to discuss the importance of PAD screening and need for reimbursement for screening.

Take time to read more about PAD and find out what you can do to promote education about this disease. See www.aboutpad.org and www.PADcoalition.org.

(continued on page 4)

American Radiological Nurses Association (ARNA)

Board of Directors
2007-2008

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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

Grand Canyon State Chapter

Deborah Thomas, BS, RN, CRN
Chapter Secretary

The Grand Canyon State Chapter continues to radiate excellence.

We had an educational offering in January in Casa Grande, AZ. This meeting featured contact hours for MRI safety and kyphoplasty. We are also anticipating our conference scheduled for April in Yuma, AZ. This is a weekend-long event that coincides with our official proclamation from the governor in recognition of National Radiology Nurses Day.

Our website continues to develop, and we are proud to be initiating a hospital spotlight section to showcase our state's hospitals. This website will feature general information about radiology departments, nurses, staffing, issues, and how to contact each hospital.

Chapter membership continues to grow and now includes technologists and physicians who support our goals. Many chapter members will be attending the national convention in March.

Philadelphia Chapter

Karen Green, MHA, BSN, RN, CRN
Chapter President

The Philadelphia Chapter held its first October Symposium on Saturday, October 27, 2007, at Frankford Hospital. Fifty-two radiology nurses from PA, NJ, and NY attended and enjoyed learning, lively conversation, and lunch with peers. Topics discussed included "Moderate Sedation," "Pharmacology for the Radiology Nurse," and "Introduction to Information Technology and Leadership," with a roundtable discussion ending the session. A total of 4.5 contact hours were awarded to those attending. Many positive comments were noted. The Board wishes to thank Ruth Cherry for her tireless effort in planning this symposium.

The chapter's Board of Directors met in January to plan educational sessions for the coming year and to develop the ballot for the election of officers for 2008. The Philadelphia Chapter looks forward to its May dinner and education program to honor radiology nurses during National Radiology Nurses Week. Details will be provided to chapter members in the coming weeks.

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.

New IRS Filing Requirements for Chapters

The IRS has changed requirements for organizations with gross receipts of \$25,000 or less. This requirement will likely affect your chapter. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 requires you to file an annual electronic notice. If a chapter has not been required to file a tax return because it has made less than \$25,000, you may now be required to file the electronic notice as a communication with the IRS that your chapter is still receiving less than \$25,000 annually. If your chapter set up tax exempt status with the IRS, your requirements may be different, and you will want to continue filing as you have in the past. This change only affects those who have not been required to file in the past. The annual electronic notice will be due by May 15 and can be completed online at the IRS website (www.irs.gov). Please visit the IRS website and click on Charities and Non-Profits for more information and filing requirements.

PAD Coalition Holds Fourth Annual Meeting *(continued from page 3)*

* The United States Senate passed a resolution marking September as National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness Month on August 1, 2007. This resolution was introduced by Senators Mike Crapo (R-ID) and Bryon Dorgan (D-ND), co-chairs of the 110th Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition.

Ties which feature the PAD purple feet logo are now available at tieguys@vineyardvines.com or by calling (800) 892-4982.

Looking for a Chapter Near You?

Northeast Region

DELAWARE CHAPTER - DE

Jean Willis
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MARYLAND CHAPTER - MD

Please contact National Office
for more information.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER - NH

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Southeast Region

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TEXAS GULF COAST CHAPTER - TX

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NORTHWEST CHAPTER - WA

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Midwest Region

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MINNESOTA CHAPTER - MN

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OHIO RADIOLOGICAL CHAPTER - OH

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If you would like information on starting a local ARNA chapter, please contact Richelle Torres, Chapter Services Specialist at ARNA, 7794 Grow Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514-7072, 850-474-7292 or toll free 866-486-ARNA (2762); fax 850-484-8762, or e-mail richelle.torres@puetzamc.com



2008 Certification Examination Date

Application Deadline

August 18, 2008

Late Fee Period

August 19-September 1

Examination

October 2008

New Certified Radiologic Nurses

The Radiologic Nursing Certification Board would like to congratulate the new Certified Radiologic Nurses who took the exam on October 13, 2007:

Eden M. Abella Long Beach, CA	Pasquelina English Belmar, NJ	Kathleen A. Johnson Lakeville, MN	Heidi M. Nordh Jenner, CA	James G. Soler Gold Canyon, AZ
Nicole A. Aenchbacher Augusta, GA	Madelyn M. Foronda Granada Hills, CA	David Kaufman Elkins Park, PA	Steven M. Nunes Napa, CA	Jennifer P. Starnes Hickory, NC
Marianne Albanese Staten Island, NY	Mark D. Grandstaff Hackensack, NJ	Christine E. Keough Rochester, NY	Ellen E. Pittman Tempe, AZ	Danna G. Stone Pearland, TX
Sandra H. Bak Jacksonville, FL	Ann G. Grauer Jackson McFarland, WI	Diane Kraft Idyllwild, CA	Dale C. Powers Long Beach, CA	Suzanne M. Sweeney Glenolden, PA
Brenda M. Bertollo Hawthorne, NJ	Catherine J. Gregg Jacksonville, FL	Donna D. LeClair Hope, RI	Rosalie A. Roman Mesa, AZ	Jessica E. Throne Park Ridge, NJ
Katie L. Black Austin, TX	Nailya Gubaydullina Staten Island, NY	Francina R. Lindog Missouri City, TX	Tony Rosas Whittier, CA	James L. Tominovich Marlborough, CT
Norma J. Blair Kankakee, IL	Christy M. Haines Boise, ID	Clayton J. Lippart Stafford, VA	Diane L. Schmidt Crowley, TX	Cecilia C. Uranga Boise, ID
Joanne M. Catapano West Hempstead, NY	Annette Hayes Durham, NC	Elizabeth S. Lowman Hickory, NC	Richard Scibilia Chapel Hill, NC	Kimberly L. Venohr Williamsville, NY
Tami J. Chomicz Branford, CT	Mary J. Hehn Erie, CO	Carol J. Majesky Carmichael, CA	Janet L. Sewell Beaumont, TX	Rachel A. Webb Nesbit, MS
Sharon S. Clifton Gallipolis, OH	Corinne E. Hockensmith Yorba Linda, CA	Mary A. McKendree Norfolk, VA	Linda G. Sherman Indianapolis, IN	Tara S. Wheeler Nixa, MO
Yvonne I. Coles Auburn, KY	Danette M. Holznagel Cottage Grove, MN	Ann McMurtry Twin Falls, ID	Natalie J. Simmons Missoula, MT	Paula L. Yach Nixa, MO
Kathy Corey Independence, MO	Susan J. Horn Deer Park, NY	Barbara J. Miller Ruther Glen, VA	Robert L. Slaughter, III Salisbury, NC	
Angela Danner Newton, NC	Joann B. Jacobs Norfolk, VA	Judith A. Miller Pittsboro, NC	Piper L. Smith Wilton, CA	
Cynthia De Vera Gilbert, AZ	Esther L. Jarvis Sparks, NV	Mary Ellen Murphy Virginia Beach, VA	Teresa M. Smith Staley, NC	

Coming Soon – Member Search by City & State!

Members, you currently have the ability to search the ARNA website for other members by first name or last name. The ability to search by city and state is coming soon! The caveat, however, is that if you do not have information in your Public Profile, other members will not know anything about you! Hurry and update your Public Profile today! Please visit the website (www.arna.net), log into the member section, click on My Profile, on the Edit button, on Update Your Profile, and then on the Public Profile tab. If you have any questions, contact the National Office at (866) 486-2762 or (850) 474-7292 and a Member Services Specialist will help you.

New Members of the American Radiological Nurses Association

ARNA would like to acknowledge the following new members:

Juan Amaya Converse, TX	Ann Bradfish Rothschild, WI	Leslie Deerfield Portsmouth, OH	Corey Glenn Simi Valley, CA	Susan Henderson Martinsville, VA
Kay Anderson Boise, ID	Paul Brandson Rancho Mirage, CA	Sharon Dezarn Hilliard, OH	Pam Grande Muskego, WI	Jennifer L. Henson Gold River, CA
Donna Anzalone Allentown, NJ	Allison Brandum Sacramento, CA	Linda Dombroski Newburgh, NY	Dawn Grossano Maywood, NJ	Maribeth Hlupic Howard, WI
Thomas Baker Plantation, FL	Kieley Brinks Hartland, MI	Ellen Donovan Doylestown, PA	Vickie Gunsch Bismarck, ND	Kimberly L. Hoff Warner Robins, GA
Rose Barbour Los Osos, CA	Angeline Byers Fairfax Station, VA	Tammy L. Douglas Ardmore, OK	Catherine Gustafson St. Paul, MN	Donna Holder Pickens, SC
Robert Baron Mohrsville, PA	Jeanne Carbone Franklin, MA	Ilan Duguid Staten Island, NY	Christy Haines Boise, ID	Brenda House Phoenix, AZ
Jill Bates-Matulonis Millers, MD	Kristi Carter Belton, TX	Suzanne Dykstra Tenison, MI	Adrienne Halsey North Las Vegas, NV	Joanna Hysler Hendersonville, TN
Tracy Baumgartner Westerville, OH	Sandra K. Child Jupiter, FL	Danyelle Earl Lawndale, NC	Kathryn I. Hammock Thomaston, GA	Karla Sue Jaksik-Ripps Castroville, TX
Debra Beadle Solon, ID	Mindy Childress Las Vegas, NV	Charlene M. Ellis-Dayton Tucson, AZ	Rachel Harper Glassboro, NJ	Kelly E. Johnson Maple Plain, MN
Elinor B. Bell Questa, NM	Carol A. Cirone Woburn, MA	Patricia Evans Vergennes, IL	Pamela Harrill Matthews, NC	Susan Jordan Barboursville, VA
Susan Benveniste Boston, MA	Debra Clark Long Branch, NJ	Loyalty A. Ferrara Wallingford, CT	Maribeth Harrison Charleston, SC	Patricia S. Kearns North Charleston, SC
Cynthia Bernier Topsham, ME	Elizabeth A. Coggin Morrisville, NC	Jacqueline Flint Baldwinsville, NY	Lisa Hartman Fishers, IN	Brendan Kelliher Joliet, IL
Eunice Bliss Sammamish, WA	Jerry D. Cook Howell, MI	Barry L. Freedman Stansbury Park, UT	April Harvey Ramsey, NJ	Kandi Kearns Charlottesville, VA
Donna Bonner Connersville, IN	Carol Cox Barrington, IL	Aaron Gallegos El Paso, TX	Sally Harvey Morrisonville, NY	Christine Koerner Peoria, AZ
Brenda K. Boots Lee's Summit, MO	Cynthia De Vera Gilbert, AZ	Albino Gelera Odessa, TX	Shana Harwell Abita Springs, LA	Diane Kraft Ildyllwild, CA



Anne Kugler Canandaigua, NY	Catherine S. McDaniel Elgin, IL	Laura D. Phelps Lexington, OH	Meejin Shim Ann Arbor, MI	Ma. Teresita R. Vasquez Baytown, TX
Jennifer Kump Fairport, NY	Terese M. McGrath Lake Zurich, IL	Kathleen Pickup Pickerington, OH	Anne Sissen St. Louis, MO	Camila Villacarlos Rancho Cordova, CA
Janess Lambiase Virginia Beach, VA	Mary McKendree Norfolk, VA	Ellen E. Pittman Tempe, AZ	Robert Slaughter, IV Salisbury, NC	Lynda Voltaire-Alfred Amityville, NY
Kathleen Larkin Hackettstown, NJ	Mary E. McNamara Winchester, VA	Lori Plemmons North Mankato, MN	Marie Smith St. Helena, SC	Richard E. Wade Queen Creek, AZ
Shelley Larsen Ogden, UT	Mary Joan Meehan Holbrook, NY	Abby Porti East Islip, NY	Marcia Smyrak Blaine, MN	Mickell Wallace Sunbury, OH
Donna LeClair Hope, RI	Joan Mimmack Brainerd, MN	Rosaura Ramos San Antonio, TX	James Soler Mesa, AZ	Lora Wallis Osceola, IN
Elaine Lee Dunn, NC	Debra Moore Pilot Mountain, NC	Mercedes Reams Stuart, FL	Juanita Starika Monrovia, IN	Marie Walsh Brooklyn, NY
Holly Leshinsky Livonia, MI	Amanda L. Mullis Perry, GA	Jennifer Reetz Fall Creek, WI	Lisa Startzman Tucson, AZ	Wen Wang Clarksville, MD
Erin Levitsky Wilmington, DE	Tamara Myers Phoenix, AZ	Jennice Reimert Newport News, VA	Brenda Staufenbiel Oregon, WI	Rachel Webb Nesbit, MS
Cathy Lewis Bowling Green, KY	Steven Nunes Napa, CA	Denise Riddle Erwin, NC	Ruthann E. Sterbler Orange Park, GA	Jennifer Werling Dublin, OH
Sue Louis San Francisco, CA	Teresa Osborne Forest Lake, MN	Michelle Robinson Detroit, MI	Bob Sypher Albany, CA	Gail M. Weston Homestead, FL
Julie Lund Ogden, UT	Theresa Palmisano-Grosso Hope Mills, NC	Mary Roller Lewis Center, OH	Darla Tarvin Batavia, OH	Tara Wheeler Nixa, MO
Maria Macamos Miami, FL	Wanda Parrales Dacula, GA	Brenda Rosenberg Presque Isle, MI	Laura Tatman Austin, TX	Nanette Wilson Minneapolis, MN
Sharon A. Maguire-Price Brockton, MA	Wilma Paull Crab Orchard, KY	Alice Salcido Bothell, WA	Pushpa A. Thomas Dallas, TX	Erin N. Winchester Clementon, NJ
Teresa Mainieri Columbus, OH	Patience Pela Cherryhill, NJ	Alicia Schaal Minneapolis, MN	Doris Tipton Simpsonville, SC	Elaine Wright Bishops Stortford, UK
Joleen Makar Royal Oak, MI	Marcy Pennel LaVista, NE	Sheila Schneider Milton, GA	Lacey Tubbs Ogden, UT	Paula L. Yach Nixa, MO
Susan Manuel Iowa City, IA	Kimberly Perepechko Chicago, IL	Andrea J. Scott St. James, NY	Velma Tucker Apache Junction, AZ	
Linda McBryde Pea Ridge, AR	M. Kim Perle Bellmawr, NJ	Julie Serrano Plantsville, CT	Jean Tyson Pembroke Pines, FL	
Joyce McCarthy Milton, FL	Nicholas M. Perrino New York, NY	Katherine Sheppard Pittsford, NY	Cecilia Uranga Boise, ID	

