Norma L. Rogers, NJSNA’s 45th President Installed

On Jan. 10, 2015, Rogers was installed along with other officers at NJSNA Headquarters; following are excerpts from her remarks.

Let me start by saying thank you to the membership for electing me to represent you and all registered professional nurses (RNs) in NJ. New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA) represents the interests of the state’s RNs by advancing the profession of nursing and advocating on behalf of both the nurses and consumers. I am humbled and honored to be given this opportunity to make an impact on the state and nation. I stand on the shoulders and side by side with some of NJ’s greatest nurse leaders. Thank you to all of the NJSNA past presidents and CEOs for your leadership, encouragement and support as I embark on this journey. A special thank you to Jean R. Marshall, MSN, RN, FAAN, the first African American President of NJSNA, from 1988-1990. Twenty seven years ago she opened the door to what is possible.

First, I would to congratulate all of the newly elected officers and board members. I look forward to taking this journey with you over the next two years. I stand on the shoulders and side by side with some of NJ’s greatest nurse leaders. Thank you to all of the NJSNA past presidents and CEOs for your leadership, encouragement and support as I embark on this journey. A special thank you to Jean R. Marshall, MSN, RN, FAAN, the first African American President of NJSNA, from 1988-1990. Twenty seven years ago she opened the door to what is possible.

In accepting the office of NJSNA President Elect, Evans stated, “This is a challenging time in health care, with the market for nurses being tight in the greater New Jersey area, as well as the current roll out of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). While many nurses see the ACA as an opportunity for the nursing profession, it is vital that NJSNA stay abreast of challenges, such as conflicting federal level messages, whereby nurses are granted the opportunity to provide services, but then restricted in practice under a differing set of regulations.” He also shared, “The IOM 2010 report, The Future of Nursing, has stated that nurses need to be allowed to practice to the full extent of their education, yet regulatory and funding sources are restricting leadership of certain health entities only to physicians. In addition, the state licensing requirement of collaborative agreements for APNs has been recognized by the Federal Trade Commission as a form of restriction of trade (2014). Simultaneously, changes to the NCLEX-RN licensing examination have demonstrated a subtle decline in passing scores for many schools of nursing.

As NJSNA Treasurer, Eleanor Dietrich-Withington will report to the Board of Directors the financial position of the Association and to the Association at each annual meeting, as well as have all books of accounts audited annually by a certified public accountant. In addition, she will serve as Alternate Representative to the ANA Member Assembly. An active member of NJSNA/ANA and a retired nurse, Dietrich-Withington has served as NJSNA Vice President, and interim CEO, for her dedication and commitment to NJSNA, as an exemplary role model of leadership under pressure in a constantly changing and challenging professional association. I would like to thank Judith Schmidt, with her ability to handle every new challenge with grace, patience and a level head. I look forward to continuing our partnership over the next two years as we collaborate and cooperate while building partnerships that will sustain and grow NJSNA. She has laid the foundation; we will continue to pave the way for the future leaders of NJSNA.

The healthcare arena continues to change rapidly, and so will New Jersey State Nurses Association. We will “Respect our past, continue to evaluate the present and embrace the future.”

Evans and Dietrich-Withington Elected NJSNA Officers

Benjamin Evans

Eleanor Dietrich-Withington

Benjamin Evans, DD, DNP, RN, APN-BC, has been elected as New Jersey State Nurses Association, President Elect and Eleanor Dietrich-Withington, RN, MSN, has been elected as Treasurer. Newly elected officials assumed their office on January 1, 2015.

Benjamin Evans is a professor at William Paterson University and has held offices as past president of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, as well as NJSNA Vice President. As NJSNA President Elect, Evans will serve as the Chairman of the Institute for Nursing, the foundation of the NJSNA, and also as a representative to the American Nurses Association (ANA) Member Assembly.

In accepting the office of NJSNA President Elect, Evans stated, “This is a challenging time in health care, with the market for nurses being tight in the greater New Jersey area,
Norma L. Rodgers, BSN, RN, CCRA, President
New Jersey State Nurses Association

Welcome to the new era and chapter of New Jersey State Nurses Association. “The Glass Sliteto Has Been Broken.” Congratulations to Dr. Benjamin Evans, RN, the first member to be elected as President-Elect of New Jersey State Nurses Association and Chairman of Institute for Nursing. I applaud the membership for having the courage to change the image and future of the organization. Voting matters; you have a voice and an opportunity to select the leaders that will represent you and the other 118,000+ Nurses in NJ and beyond. I would also like to congratulate all of the newly elected NJSNA and Region board members. I look forward to taking this journey with each of you over the next two years.

In order to know where we are going sometimes we must visit the past in order to refresh our memory, then develop a path on which we can proceed forward to the future. Change happens over time, sometimes it is slow and steady other times it is rapid and overnight. Regardless, in order to grow something has to change.

The Past: ‘What is Past is Prologue’

Regardless, in order to grow something has to change. We must visit the past in order to refresh our memory, over the next two years.

The future will be different, stronger, and more successful than the present. If we do not have our roots in the past, we are unable to build a successful foundation for the future. Change happens over time, sometimes it is slow and steady other times it is rapid and overnight. Regardless, in order to grow something has to change.

The New Jersey State Nurses Association was incorporated with 112 charter members in 1901 – New York, Illinois and Virginia. It was incorporated in 1902, it was among the first states in which nurses banded together for this purpose. After passing the first state laws, they began immediately to organize for such laws. Since educational standards could only be enacted by states, NJSNA has been working to advocate for the nursing profession both locally and nationally. NJSNA will continue to have a voice on issues that will impact nursing practice, patient safety and quality of care. NJSNA will do this by increasing and diversifying our membership. Each Region has been changed to recruit 50 new members this year. Therefore, I now charge you each to recruit a new member, renew your membership and get involved. For those registered nurses reading this article that are not members I encourage you to become part of this amazing organization. Get involved in the decision making for your practice and future. The volume of our voice increases and strengthens with the membership and character of the members. NJSNA will continue to position itself as the “go to” organization for NJ nurses, as we develop and implement policies that will improve and protect health care practices for both the nurses and the communities where they live and work, regardless of the setting.

The New Jersey State Nurses Association is comprised of six regions divided by counties: Region 1 - Morris, Passaic, Sussex and Warren Region 2 - Bergen and Hudson Region 3 - Essex and Union Region 4 - Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset and Union Region 5 - Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Region 6 - Monmouth Ocean, Atlantic and Cape May

There is always a Region meeting near your home or workplace. Just let them know what you want to learn about what is happening in the region, the state and the national association. Check the NJSNA website for upcoming meeting dates and events at: www.njsna.org.

The Future

“The Past is a village to raise a child;” it also takes a village of nurses to raise and nurture nurse leaders. In order for this organization to grow we will need to embrace our future by mentoring nurse leaders and new graduates. To be successful we must change the way the organization operates, and be open to try new things.

“We can’t do anything as long as you are afraid of what might happen. Fear clouds opportunities, erases possibilities, and limits the ability to move beyond the place in which the mind is stuck.” No matter how difficult we think the problem is, we must muster up the courage to face it. The Board of Director and membership will muster up the courage to face the future and move this organization forward.

You, the membership, are an important part of this organization. I encourage you to send suggestions and feedback about what you need or would like to see from the organization. Send emails to Norma@njsna.org

Reference

www.njsna.org

Published by: Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, Inc.
As I was reading articles in other Nursing Association Newsletters, one particular article from the “The Alabama Nurse” stood out. The title was “Lack of State Nurses Association Membership is a Practice Issue” written by Sarah Pierce Wilkinson, MSN, BA, RN, a District President in the Alabama Nurses Association. Wilkinson ascertains that participation in a professional nursing organization, that does not represent a single specialization but all nurses, provides nurses with opportunities for professional collaboration and development of their careers and the discipline of nursing. She further stated that lack of participation will compromise nurses professional development, patient care and the future of nursing in a rapidly changing environment.

I have often heard nurses state many reasons why they do not join. “It costs too much money.” It actually costs about $1/day. “I have no time, I’m too busy.” You are never too busy to nourish your body, how can you be too busy to nourish your practice—your livelihood? Some nurses are fearful of the changing state of health care and instead of becoming informed they complain, complain and complain about what is wrong with health care and nursing today.

Health care is changing so rapidly, we are not really sure what it will look like in the next 10 or even the next 5 years. Do you want to be on the inside looking out or the outside looking in? I for one want to be on the inside. Where is that “inside” I speak of? It is the New Jersey State Nurses, your professional nursing association that represents the almost 120,000 registered nurses in New Jersey. We also have a venue for Licensed Practical Nurses, although not membership, in a LPN Forum. Membership gives you insider information on both state and local issues that affect the profession of nursing. There are a multitude of legislative bills that will have some impact on us all. The New Jersey State Nurses Association is there to make sure that the effect will not be a negative one on the profession of nursing. At the national level the American Nurses Association membership is crucial.

The one question I ask you: Are you a member of the New Jersey State Nurses Association? Just because you are reading this does not mean you are a member. If you are not, please join me as a NJSNA member. You can join up at njsna.org or call 609-883-5335, we will gladly help you to join. If you are a member, check your membership card and make sure it is still current. Again, call us if you need help or have questions about membership.

Remember Wilkinson’s words: Lack of participation in your professional nurses association will compromise your professional development and the care you give to your patients.

Reference

NJCCN Update
New Roles Emerging

As healthcare evolves, new nursing roles and functions are being implemented to fill gaps in the delivery of healthcare. While these roles are necessary, it is important to ensure that healthcare workers are prepared adequately and that there are sufficient numbers to meet the demands. These roles include, for example, healthcare coaches, patient navigators, and community health workers to name a few. To begin planning for these new roles, the New Jersey Collaborating Center for Nursing (NJCCN) will conduct an environmental scan. NJCCN will send a survey to the numerous professional organizations, industry and academic programs in the state. Once we have captured this information, NJCCN will share it with the healthcare community to begin the dialogue and to help identify what recommendations need to be made to ensure that we have an adequately prepared workforce.

Edna Cadmus, RN, PhD, FAAN, NJ Collaborating Center for Nursing executive director, stated, “As a workforce center, NJCCN will inform state, regional, and local health planning groups about these new roles. The goal will be to plan for the educational infrastructure to ensure that there are care providers to meet the needs of the New Jersey residents.”

NJCCN’s vision is to be the dominant source on nursing workforce solutions for New Jersey citizens. Contact information: NJ Collaborating Center for Nursing, Rutgers School of Nursing, 180 University Avenue, Room 238, Newark, NJ 07102, (Tel) 973-353-2715; URL – www.njccn.org.
Board of Directors Updates:

The NJSNA Board of Directors met on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 in Trenton. In attendance were: Judy Schmidt, President; Norma Rodgers, President-Elect; JoAnne Penn, Treasurer; Sandy Quinn, Secretary; Mary Ann Donohue-Ryan, Immediate Past President; Directors Kate Gillespie; Brenda Marshall; Kathleen Burkhardt; Mary Krug; Patricia Fonder; Patricia August, Region 2 President; Vansha Singh, Region 3 President-Elect; Corleta Jones, Region 3 President; Debra Elko, CFO; Debra Harwell, Associate Director; Barbara Chamberlain, Education Specialist; Suzanne Alumni-Kinkle; Sandy Kerr, Executive Assistant

Excused: Kathryn Fleming, Vice President; Mary Carroll, Director; Susan Weaver, COPP Chair; Daniel Misa, Region 1 President; Rosemarie Rosales, Region 3 President; Regina Adams, Region 4 President; Kathleen Brack, Region 6 President

On Phone: Margaret Huryk; Susan Weaver

Following are highlights of the action items:

Motion 1—Approve the Consent Agenda and the Minutes of September 23, 2014 with correction to add Dorothy Borresen in attendance. Passed Vote Yes 13.


Motion 3—Approve to accept the proposal to maintain the 2015 contract at Bally’s for the 2015 NJSNA/IFN Convention. Passed Vote Yes 11. Abstain 2

Meet Your New Board
2015 NJSNA Board of Directors and Region Presidents

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Norma Rodgers BSN, RN, CCAN

PRESIDENT-ELECT Benjamin Evans, DD, DNP, RN, APN

VICE PRESIDENT Kathry Fleming PhD, RN, CPHQ, NEA-BC

TREASURER Eleanor Dietrich-Whittington BSN, MA

SECRETARY Sandy Quinn DNP, RN, CNE

DIRECTORS MEMBER-AT-LARGE

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Judy Schmidt RN, MSN, DNC, CCRN

DIRECTOR Margaret Huryk MSN, RN, APN

DIRECTOR Saundra Austin Benn, MSN, APN

DIRECTOR Kate Gillespie RN, BSN, MBA, NEA-BC

DIRECTOR Mary A. Carroll RN, BC, MSN, CDONA

DIRECTOR Rosemarie Rosales BSN, MPA, RN, CCRN, CPHQ

DIRECTOR STAFF NURSE Kathleen Mullens, BSN, MSN, MA

DIRECTOR STAFF NURSE Kathleen Burkhardt MSN, APN

DIRECTOR STAFF NURSE Mary Krug MSN, APN

CHAIR CONGRESS ON POLICY & PRACTICE Susan Weaver MSN, RN, CRNI, NEA-BC

REGION PRESIDENTS

REGION 1 Daniel Misa BS, RN, CEN

REGION 2 Patricia August RN, MSN, BC

REGION 3 Varsha Singh RN, MSN, APN

REGION 4 Regina Adams RN, BSN

REGION 5 Corleta Jones, RN, BSN

REGION 6 Peggy Lasoff, BSN

(No photo available)
Do you wonder what the Congress on Policy and Practice (COPP) does? Recently COPP members have commented on a New Jersey Board of Nursing rule change, are following the change in the FDA blood donation ban, and have been tracking the New Jersey legislation related to the opiate epidemic.

**New Jersey Board of Nursing rule change**

The New Jersey Board of Nursing proposed deletion of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.6, which states that a licensee is to be held to the level of his or her licensure regardless of his or her employment status. As nursing advocates, COPP supported the repeal of this rule which will remove potential barriers to nursing employment. COPP posted a comment that the repeal of this rule would allow newly licensed Registered Nurses to remain employed in roles, such as nursing assistants or patient care technicians, while gaining experience and practical knowledge until a RN position becomes available.

**Change in the FDA blood donation ban**

In a previous COPP article the FDA hoped donation policies for gay men were reviewed, specifically the lifetime ban on blood donations from men who admitted to having sexual contact with another man at any time in their lives (Smith & Smith, 2014). In December 2014, the FDA announced that based on scientific evidence, gay men will no longer be excluded from donating blood (Tavernise, 2014). However until more research is available, the FDA will continue to ban blood donation with men who have had sex with another man in the last 12 months.

**Opiate epidemic**

The opiate epidemic in New Jersey is a problem of epidemic proportions that is killing young people. Fortunately, this past December, Senator Joseph F. Vitale (Chairman of the Senate Health Committee) and a bipartisan group of legislators announced a bill package consisting of 21 bills which focus on the need to improve care and treatment for opiate addicts. Both the senate and assembly passed the first wave of the bills. Helping adolescents and college age youths maintain sobriety is a priority—two of the bills relate directly to prevention and treatment for students. Senate Bill S2367 sponsored by Senators Richard J. Codey and Diane Allen would require the state Board of Education to review curriculum on substance abuse to make sure that public school students are receiving effective prevention education. Additionally, Senate Bill S2377, sponsored by Senators Peter J. Barnes III and Vitale would require four-year public institutions of higher education to establish special housing for students who are in recovery.

How else can this dragon be slain? Over the past year and a half, we have seen positive outcomes as a result of the Overdose Prevention Act (Good Samaritan Law) of May 2013 which provides protections for the victim and those who seek help during an overdose from arrest, charge, and prosecution for simple drug possession, even if found at the scene of the incident, and in July 2013, it expanded civil and criminal protections to medical professionals who prescribe naloxone and laypeople who administer it. Law enforcement education has enabled police to have and administer naloxone to hundreds of overdose victims who are frequently abused and are gateway drugs to heroin. The Congress on Policy and Practice wants to hear from NJSNA members about these issues and other issues related to nursing practice. Please send any practice issues/questions for the COPP to policy@njsna.org.

**References**


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The Congress on Policy and Practice (COPP) welcomes members from left to right front row, Richard Ridge, Dorothy Borresen, Sue Weaver and Sue Varga; back row Yvonne Wesley, Sandy Foley, Grace Reilly, Vidette Todaro- Franceschi, Eleanor Dietrich- Wilthington, and Karla Tramutola.
Patricia Suplee, PhD, RNC, CS, Rutgers School of Nursing–Camden, assistant professor, has been honored by the New Jersey March of Dimes as a 2014 Nurse of the Year. Each year, the March of Dimes recognizes nurses who demonstrate exceptional patient care, compassion, and service while serving as a health care provider, educator, researcher, or chapter volunteer or advisor.

Suplee was recognized in the research category, joining 18 other New Jersey nurses honored in various other categories by the March of Dimes this year, including two other award recipients from Rutgers University. Maureen Esteves, RN, PhD, Rutgers School of Nursing—Newark, associate dean for undergraduate education, received a Nurse of the Year award in the nurse educator category, and Christy McCoy, a Rutgers–Newark nursing student was honored in the nursing student category.

“I would like to thank the March of Dimes for acknowledging and respecting my work,” Suplee said. “As a faculty member at Rutgers–Camden, my research affords me the opportunity to improve healthcare for women who reside in local marginalized communities.” Suplee’s research focuses on improving overall health care for minority women living in underserved communities. She currently is analyzing birth data to describe maternal health and birth outcomes using GIS mapping technology. Data will be geocoded by neighborhood areas to create maps. Ultimately, this unique database will be used to guide future tailored interventions to specific vulnerable populations of women.

Also, for that study, Suplee received the March of Dimes Margaret Comerford Freda ‘Saving Babies, Together’ Grant Award from the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses in June. The award is given annually to a researcher whose work reflects the common commitment of the March of Dimes and AWHONN to promote health among women and newborns. Suplee earned her bachelor’s degree from Indiana University and her master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. She has more than 25 years of professional nursing experience caring for childbearing women.

More than 209 nurses were nominated in New Jersey for March of Dimes Nurse of the Year awards. The winners have played a critical role in improving the health of New Jersey’s mothers and babies. New Jersey award recipients were announced at a special awards gala held on Nov. 19 at Pines Manor in Edison, which included 145 finalists representing 40 hospitals and healthcare facilities in the state.

Patricia Suplee

Patricia Suplee, PhD, RNC, CS, Rutgers School of Nursing–Camden, assistant professor, has been honored by the New Jersey March of Dimes as a 2014 Nurse of the Year.

Susan Laffan

Region 6 member, Susan Laffan, RN, CCHP-RN, CCHP-Advanced, received two awards in 2014. The first was the “CCHP Cheerleader Award,” the first of its kind to be presented by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) at its Las Vegas convention in October. Laffan was recognized for her dedication to the Certified Correctional Health Professional (CCHP) certification program and is currently serving a second term on the CCHP Board of Trustees. A member of the CCHP-RN task force which develops the RN certification, Laffan is one of 24 people in the United States who hold a CCHP-Advanced certification.

The second award was presented by the International Nurses Association as a “Top Emergency and Correctional Nurse,” where she will be featured in the 2014 edition of worldwide leaders in healthcare.

Laffan is also the chairperson of the Academy of Correctional Health Professionals, a nationwide membership organization where she has been a Board of Directors member for 13 of the 14 years of the organization’s existence. She serves on a task force to develop Nursing Guidelines for Chronic Care Clinics within correctional facilities.

At the National Commission on Correctional Health Care conference, Laffan presented six educational sessions, where she has received the highest rated speaker evaluation for over 100 sessions. Also, she developed and distributed a ‘Correctional Nursing Pledge’ and presented three sessions at the Atlanta, GA, spring conference in April. In 2014, she published two articles in Correct Care and assisted peers with editing reviews of many other articles and books for publication.

A member of the NJSNA Convention Committee, Laffan created and donated many of the baskets that were raffle prizes for the Institute for Nursing, and served to set up and monitor convention sessions. A planning committee member for the 50th Anniversary of the Silverton First Aid Squad and she is the group’s Treasurer.

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Elaine Diegmann is prominent in northern New Jersey, where she started three midwife faculty practices – approximately 350 certified midwives practice in New Jersey. Twenty-nine students at various stages of their careers are enrolled in the nurse midwifery program at Rutgers – the state's only midwife education program. Now is the time to work toward making US deliveries by midwives. “The midwife is that professional honor she values greatly. “It means a lot to me,” says Diegmann, a fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists who has been recognized often for her leadership in midwifery. “As we collaborate and build relationships with physicians, the midwifery population will grow even more,” Diegmann says. Reflecting her commitment to improving services to mothers and their babies, Diegmann recently received the Lester Z. Lieberman Humanism in Healthcare Award from The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, a professional honor the renowned midwife Greenwich, Connecticut, recognizes my caring for women over a lifetime. “It’s important because it recognizes my caring for women over a lifetime.” Delivering a baby gives Diegmann an emotional high. It’s the most wonderful feeling to see a healthy baby crying.”

Elaine Diegmann

Deigmann’s Career as Midwife Filled with Magical Moments: Recipient of Humanism in Health Care Award

Newark’s University Hospital (1978-96), Jersey City Medical Center and New York Beth Israel Medical Center, where midwives attend approximately 900 births per year. An Edison resident and a wife of 54 years, Diegmann has been recognized often for her expertise in soft tissue repair after birth; shoulder dystocia (when the baby’s shoulder is blocked from entering the birth canal), and the Rigiton maneuver (to control the movement of the baby’s head during delivery). She frequently lectures to medical students and residents and professional organizations in NJ and throughout the country.

Diegmann was drawn to a career caring for women since her first clinical rotation as a student at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. “I knew it as soon as I saw my first birth,” she says. She worked first as a labor and delivery nurse at St. Peter’s Hospital in New Brunswick, New Jersey. When a former mentor established a midwifery program in 1975 at the then College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (CMDNJ), which has evolved into RBHS, Diegmann enrolled as a member of its first graduating class.

After practicing privately as a midwife in West New York, Diegmann transferred to the School of Nursing at Rutgers – the state’s only midwifery education program at multiple sites to make this education affordable and accessible. The focus is on the individual, one’s work and others through the spending. Norton studies how we feel about what we buy and spend. It seems that his data reveal that when we buy or spend for another, we have greater self-happiness and outcomes, than when we spend just on ourselves.

The Institute for Nursing offers the opportunity to give to others. The Institute has awarded over $72,000 dollars in scholarships in the past 5 years. Additionally, $1,800 has recently been awarded for nursing research projects. As part of our charitable work, the Institute sponsors a capital campaign, endowment campaigns, and events like the Extraordinary People Impacting the Community (EPIC) awards, Wine Tasting, Men in Nursing Brunch (women welcome!) and the opportunity to make a donation in honor of or in memory of a nurse. Consider offering a contribution to the Institute for Nursing to help us to continue the mission. Your effort will bring you happiness! The Institute for Nursing offers nurses and those who care about nursing the opportunity to reach out to others and positively impact the efforts of current and future nurses. There is a line in a prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, it reads “for in giving we receive.” I ask you to give so that you may receive—happiness and the sense that you are advancing nursing education, practice, research, and charitable works.

Diegmann is a practicing midwife in New Jersey for 34 years. A professor and director of nurse midwifery education at Rutgers School of Nursing, she is a recognized leader among the country’s 11,000 midwives – 3 percent are male – who are typically licensed nurses specializing in prenatal and postnatal care, childbirth and a variety of women’s wellness issues across the life span.

The Affordable Care Act has put an emphasis on wellness care and cost effectiveness,” says Diegmann about the recent trend towards US deliveries by midwives. “The midwife is that practitioner. Now is the time to work toward making the midwife the primary care giver in the US. Interest in midwifery has grown in New Jersey. Twenty-nine students at various stages are enrolled in the nurse midwifery program at Rutgers – the state’s only midwifery education program – and all student clinical rotation slots at area hospitals are regularly filled. Currently, approximately 350 certified midwives practice in New Jersey, where about 6.5 percent of pregnant women are cared for by midwives. Diegmann is prominent in northern New Jersey, where she started three midwife faculty practices –
Public Ranks Nurses as Most Honest, Ethical Profession for 13th Straight Year

High Ranking in Gallup Poll Coincides with ANA's Year of Ethics

As the American Nurses Association (ANA) embarks on a yearlong campaign to highlight the importance of nursing ethics and their impact on patients and health care quality, the annual Gallup survey on trust in professions shows the public continues to rate nursing as the most honest and ethical. For the past 13 years, the public has voted nurses as the most honest and ethical profession in America in the Gallup poll. This year, 80 percent of Americans rated nurses honesty and ethical standards as "very high" or "high," 15 percentage points above any other profession.

"All nurses share the critical responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical standards in their practice to ensure they provide superior health care to patients and society," said ANA President Pamela F. Cipriano, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN. "ANA is calling 2015 the Year of Ethics to highlight ethics as an essential component of everyday nursing practice and reinforce the trust patients have that nurses will protect their health and safety, and advocate on their behalf."

As more Americans gain access to health care under the Affordable Care Act, consumers increasingly are finding that they can rely upon nurses to provide their preventive, wellness and primary care services.

Additionally, ANA has completed a revision of its Code of Ethics for Nurses, a cornerstone document of the nursing profession that upholds the best interests of patients, families and communities. The new Code reflects many changes and evolutions in health care and considers the most current ethical challenges nurses face in practice.

The new Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements will be released early in 2015. The revision involved a four-year process in which a committee received and evaluated comments on ethics issues from thousands of nurses.

The Year of Ethics will include educational activities supporting the Code and a two-day experts' symposium.

Often in Error, but Never in Doubt

By Suzanne Drake, PhD, APN, Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurse

I sat down with my cup of Chai to read an article forwarded to me by a colleague entitled "When a Nurse Is Your Healthcare Provider, You’re At Risk." Nurses who care about the truthfulness of the information they present to their patients, for the sake of the patient’s safety and care, the facts, and the trust of family members, have been falsely accused of providing inaccurate and "ridiculously false" by political fact-checkers, Politifact and FactCheck.org. And, yet, her stellar credentials, at face value, add weight and credibility to her opinions for those too tired or too lazy to formulate their own and for those already too galvanized in their beliefs to consider facts.

But this was an Op-Ed. Aren’t we all entitled to our opinion? Sure. It’s a fact that cilantro is high in Vitamin K, and it’s my opinion that it tastes like Ivory soap. As nurses, still the most trusted of professions, let’s lead by example and not get carried away by our own passionate opinions and biases, but be ever mindful to avoid cognitive dissonance. Political science researcher, James Kuklinski of the Pace Poll, wrote about opinion a pinyin/noun.

1. a view or judgment formed about something, not necessarily based on fact or knowledge.

"It’s absolutely threatening to admit you’re wrong,” says Dartmouth political scientist Brendan Nyhan, the lead researcher on a Michigan study on the subject. The phenomenon — known as “backfire” — is “a natural defense mechanism to abandon an unpopular or inaccurate viewpoint,” Nyhan wrote.

While it may be ineffective at reducing public misperceptions about controversial issues encouraged by pundits like McCaughey, fact-checking might help nurses, others in the health care debate by holding public and fact-checkers accountable for the truth and thereby strengthen democratic accountability.

As nurses, still the most trusted of professions, let’s lead by example and not get carried away by our own passionate opinions and biases, but be ever mindful to listen carefully and answer thoughtfully. . . . just my opinion.

References:


Nurses Day at the Capitol

Speak up for the nursing profession and make your voice heard at New Jersey State Nurses Association’s 2015 Nurse Day at the Capitol!

Join nurses from New Jersey in June 18 and let state legislators know how they can help nurses improve health care for all New Jerseyans.

We invite nurses from all over New Jersey to join us.

By attending, you can:
• BECOME ENERGIZED BY THE POWER of a statewide voice for nursing and quality patient care.
• LEARN ABOUT THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS from nurse experts
• OBSERVE YOUR LEGISLATORS AT WORK in the Senate or Assembly
• NETWORK with your nurse colleagues from across New Jersey.

Visit the NJSNA website to register or call Sandy Kerr at 609-883-5335 x 111 for details.

Call for Nominations for the “EPIC AWARDS”

The Institute for Nursing is pleased to issue a call for nominations for the 2015 “EPIC AWARDS” (Exceptional People Impacting the Community).

The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals or organizations for their efforts to advance community wellness, promote innovative health care initiatives, and/or have an established record of support for the profession of nursing in New Jersey.

Please contact Debra Harwell at 609-883-5335 ext. 119 or by email deb@njsna.org for more information or to acquire a nomination form.

DEADLINE JULY 31, 2015

Call for Resolution Proposals

NJSNA’s Resolutions Committee is now accepting Resolution Proposals. Any suggestions for proposed resolutions will be referred to the Resolutions Committee for study. Amendments proposed by the Resolutions Committee for the 2015 NJSNA Annual Meeting must be in the possession of the NJSNA Resolutions Committee by May 1, 2015.

Please submit all resolution proposals to Sandy Kerr, Executive Assistant, at sandy@njsna.org.

Call for Bylaws Proposals

NJSNA’s Bylaws Committee is now accepting Bylaws Amendment Proposals. Any suggestions for proposed amendments will be referred to the Bylaws Committee for study. Amendments proposed by the Bylaws Committee for the 2015 NJSNA Annual Meeting must be in the possession of the NJSNA Bylaws Committee by May 1, 2015.

Current NJSNA Bylaws may be found online at http://www.njsna.org, click on ABOUT NJSNA, then select 2015 NJSNA Bylaws. Please submit all Bylaws Amendment Proposals to Sandy Kerr, Executive Assistant, at sandy@njsna.org.

CAMP NURSE (RN)

Blairstown, NJ

1 hour from NYC

Weekday Sleep-Away Camp

Begin June 22 (approx.)
End August 15

800-633-7350
email: info@campuskids.com
www.campuskids.com

CAMP NURSE

(RN)
Blairstown, NJ
1 hour from NYC

Weekday Sleep-Away Camp
Begin June 22 (approx.)
End August 15

NY Adirondack Mins - Summer
Brant Lake Camp
Hiring: Charge Nurses, RNs, LPNs to be part of premier resident children’s camp. TOP salary, room, board, transportation included (possible to have your own kids participate in camp.)
Warm, nice, professional medical facilities. Close to 100 years, one family ownership and directorship www.brantlake.com • Jenu@brantlake.com • (518) 494-2406

NY Nurses needed for a NY Performing Arts Camp located in Hancock, 2½ hours from NYC. Available for 3, 6, or 9 weeks and include room and board. Families are accommodated.

For info call (800) 634-1703 or go to: www.frenchwoods.com

Indian Head Camp
We are a traditional co-ed, residential, summer camp in beautiful North East Pennsylvania.

RN’s needed for a 4 week Summer Session 6/22-7/6

Email Lauren@indianhead.com • (914) 215-2150
www.indianhead.com

CAMP NURSE

(RN)
Blairstown, NJ
1 hour from NYC

Weekday Sleep-Away Camp
Begin June 22 (approx.)
End August 15
New Jersey State Nurses Association: Myth versus Fact

Norma Rodgers, BSN, RN, CCRA
NJSNA President

As I travel the state and interact with both members and non-members there are misconceptions about NJSNA I have heard. As a result, we decided to clear up some of the myths by providing the facts.

MYTH 1: New Jersey State Nurses Association is a nursing union, collective bargaining organization.
FACT: NO…or not any more

New Jersey State Nurses Association is a professional nursing association and constituent of the American Nurses Association (ANA). Although some ANA constituents states have collective bargaining units, NJSNA no longer has a collective bargaining unit

NJSNA History:
The National Labor Relations Board recognized NJSNA as the collective bargaining agent for its members in 1962. Nurses employed by Humble Oil and Refining Company’s Bayway Plant in Linden, negotiated the first contract for the Association. NJSNA later established its labor arm JNESO (Jersey Nurses Economic Security Organization), and forming the position of Director of Labor.

In 1971, a court ruled that the Association could not represent faculty members of a diploma school of nursing. JNESO was officially recognized as NJSNA’s collective bargaining unit through a 1969 Bylaws change. By 1972 JNESO had established a separate board and was setting its own policies to distinguish the professional association from the collective bargaining unit. In 1985, JNESO moved to disaffiliate from JNESO. After a year in court, the disaffiliation was finalized. Since NJSNA members continued to have needs and issues related to employment, the Cabinet on Economic and General Welfare has decided to assure collective bargaining services remained an Association priority.

In October 2011, NJSNA Board of Directors decided that NJSNA would terminate the collective bargaining unit that represented RNs. Through a bylaws change in April 2012 the discontinuation of all collective bargaining services was completed.

MYTH 2: I am/or must be a member because I receive the “New Jersey Nurse” newsletter.
Fact 2: NJSNA membership is open to all registered Nurses in New Jersey. By receiving a copy of the newsletter regardless of membership.

MYTH 3: I think I belong to NJSNA or NJLN or NJSN, are they the same organization?
Fact 3: No, they are three different nursing organizations. Each organization has its own mission, values and structure. However, the NJSNA membership includes both non-members and members of NJLN.

NJSN = New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA) and a constituent of the American Nurses Association (ANA). Membership is open to all registered Nurses.
NJLN = New Jersey League for Nursing, an affiliate of the National League of Nursing (NLN) and the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) who have a consult that assists in the mentoring and guidance of the NJLN board members.

NJSN = New Jersey Nursing Students Association (NJNS) is a pre-professional organization representing the nursing students of New Jersey.

NJNS = New Jersey Nursing Students Inc. (NJNS) is a pre-professional organization representing the nursing students of New Jersey. NJNS is an affiliate of the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA). Both NJSNA and NJLN have a consult that assists in the mentoring and guidance of the NJNS board members.

MYTH 4: NJSNA is a “White glove society.”
Fact 4: NJSNA is a professional nurses association. Advocating, Positioning, Educating NJ RNs. The mission of the New Jersey State Nurses Association is to promote the profession of nursing, advance the practice of nursing, and advocate for the nurses.

NJNSA achieves its mission through the activities of its members in:
Education
Policy development
Leadership
Professional representation
Workplace advocacy

NJSNA Membership is open to all registered nurses for a fee.

New Jersey Board of Nursing (NJBON), Division of Consumer Affairs

The Board licenses registered nurses and practical nurses, and regulates the nursing profession in New Jersey. The Board certifies nursing schools and approves clinical affiliates.

http://www.state.nj.us/lps/ca/nursers/

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The Board licenses registered nurses and practical nurses, and regulates the nursing profession in New Jersey. The Board certifies nursing schools and approves clinical affiliates.

NJNSA is a professional nurses association. Advocating, Positioning, Educating NJ RNs. The mission of the New Jersey State Nurses Association is to promote the profession of nursing, advance the practice of nursing, and advocate for the nurses.

MYTH 5: NJSNA regulates my nursing license or I’m member because I paid for my nursing license.
Fact 5: NO…NJSNA does not provide or regulate your nursing license. The New Jersey Board of Nursing provides and regulates your nursing license.

New Jersey Summit Hits High Points in Academic Progression Journey

The New Jersey Action Coalition (NJAC) Seamless Academic Progression Summit II drew more than 60 attendees from across the state and national perspectives on a key recommendation—advancing education transformation—in the landmark Institute of Medicine (IOM) report on the future of nursing.

“IT’s amazing to me how far we’ve come, but how far we have to go to meet the IOM recommendations,” NJAC Co-Lead Edna Cadmus, PhD RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, told the crowd assembled at the New Jersey Hospital Association in Princeton in late November.

Cadmus introduced Pat Polansky, RN, MS, co-director of the Center to Champion Nursing in America initiative of AARP, the AARP Foundation, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) that serves as national headquarters for the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action. The center, she said, is working to implement the IOM’s future of nursing recommendations through Action Coalitions it has created in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and at the national level. Polansky challenged attendees to view health care’s rapid evolution as a “race” that nurses must embrace. “If nurses aren’t in the game, she said, “we will remain mid-level providers.”

Susan Salmond, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, executive vice dean and dean of student affairs at the College of Nursing at the University of Kentucky, and Maria LoGrippo, PhD, RN, NE-BC, project director for NJAC’s academic-focus program, said the Program grant from RWJF, gave a progress report on NJAC’s Academic Progression Pilot Project. As the project shifts its focus from gap analyses to model design, LoGrippo said, key models that will help guide students on their educational pathways and help them use financial aid wisely.

Mary Baroni, PhD, RN, professor of nursing and health studies at the University of Washington, at Bothell, highlighted efforts to enhance alignment between two- and four-year institutions and streamline a statewide associate degree progression in nursing (ADN)-to-BSN curricular pathway, Sharon Gavin Fought, PhD, RN, director and associate professor of nursing at the University of Washington, Tacoma, and Gervaise Babbo, RN, MS, professor and associate dean for nursing at Olympic College, a two-year institution, shared the Toggle model for building a bridge of prelicensure to baccalaureate programs. Ann Hubbard, DNP, EdD, ARNP, CNE, associate dean of nursing at Indian River State College in Florida, focused on close partnerships, such as working with RWJF’s New Jersey Health Initiatives and New Jersey Nursing Initiative programs, optimizing in-kind support from the New Jersey Hospital Association; providing “navigators” who will promote seamless academic progression models to both associate degree RNs and non-nurses in practice settings who are interested in pursuing bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degrees; increasing diversity among aspiring nurses; and developing an online tool that will guide students on their educational pathways and help them use financial aid wisely.

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Niedz Named Rutgers Outstanding Alumna, Alumna Nagtalon-Ramos is Rising Star

Barbara A. Niedz, RN, PhD, and Jamille Nagtalon-Ramos were honored for their accomplishments and service to others at the 2014 awards reception hosted by the Rutgers School of Nursing Alumni Association. Niedz, a health care quality improvement specialist, received the Outstanding Alumna Award, Niedz, a nurse practitioner and educator, received the Rising Star Alumni Award. The association also presented its nursing student scholarships during the reception at the Grand Summit Hotel in Summit.

The annual awards ceremony was the first for the newly merged alumni association, which mirrored the July 1, 2014 consolidation of Rutgers College of Nursing with the School of Nursing from the former University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ).

"This is a wonderful time to shine the spotlight on our alumni," notes Alumna President Judith Caruso (AS ’65, BS ’67, MS ’78, DNS ’11). "The Rutgers School of Nursing Alumni Association now represents more than 10,000 graduates. With a shared vision and united action, we can be a powerful voice for nursing in our state, nation and beyond."

Niedz has distinguished career in healthcare quality

Niedz, a nurse for more than 43 years, received the Outstanding Alumna Award for her distinguished career aimed at ensuring that patients receive safe, high quality care. The three-time nursing graduate earned her PhD (’96), MS (’87), and BS (’71) from Rutgers, and she is a nationally Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ).

Employed as national vice president for quality operations at Magellan Health, a Scottsdale, Arizona based management firm, Niedz’s responsibilities include oversight of its pharmaceutical services division. She also holds senior leadership positions in quality improvement and regulatory affairs at APS Healthcare, White Plains, NY, and LibertyHealth Management, Secaucus.

Niedz served 21 years at St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center in Paterson, where she oversaw quality control and improvement initiatives and also served as New Jersey State Nurses Association’s Continuing Education Committee, Chairperson. This is the body that is accredited by the American Nurses Commission on Accreditation to approve nursing professional development programs across the state.

Nagtalon has performed international service

Jamille Nagtalon-Ramos, a women’s health nurse practitioner, received the Rising Star Award given to exceptional alumna in the first 10 to 15 years of their careers. She earned her BS in Nursing from Rutgers in 2001 and is a past secretary of the alumni association. Born and raised in Manila, Philippines, Nagtalon has performed international service in several US states and traveled to Peru and Kenya to serve communities in need. She was a visiting faculty member at the Faculté des Sciences Infirmières de l’Université Épiscopale d’Haiti (Faculty of Nursing Science of the Episcopal University of Haiti) in Leogane, Haiti and has lectured at the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn) School of Nursing, where she earned her master’s degree in 2003. She maintains a practice in the OB/GYN department at the Hospital of U Penn.

Nagtalon-Ramos serves on the board of the Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health (NPWH) as secretary and social media liaison, and co-chaired the NPWH’s 2012 and 2013 annual conferences. She is an active member of the Association of Women’s Health Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses and the American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology. An author, speaker, and photographer, she has spoken and exhibited her work in several US states and traveled to Peru and Kenya to serve communities in need.

In addition, the Alumni Association presented scholarships to students who have excelled in academics, clinical practice and/or service to the school and surrounding communities. Debra Bouwer and Valeria Dworakowitz received Elizabeth Fenclason Scholarship Awards; Lina Li received the School of Nursing Alumni Scholarship; Alisa Dolinsky-Schwell received the Noel Roemer Memorial Scholarship, and Whitney Supernavage received the Scarpa Memorial Scholarship.
Convention Goals:

- To provide continuing nursing education to help manage your future in the changing world of healthcare that promotes excellent care to your patients.
- Increase awareness of the similarities and differences in nursing excellence by exploring new and exciting ways that education preserves the past, engages the present, and impacts the future.
- Increase awareness of how much nursing has changed from the past to today’s current evidence-based practices that affect the future needs of patients.

PRE-CONVENTION DAY – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. All Day Continuing Nursing Education
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Exhibit Registration and Booth Set-Up
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Institute for Nursing Board of Trustees Annual Meeting
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Convention Registration Open
6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. New Jersey State Nurses Association C.A.R.E.S. Awards
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. KICK-OFF Continuing Education Session

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Exhibit Registration and Booth Set-Up
7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Convention Registration Open
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. SUNRISE Continuing Education
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. NJSNA Resolutions and Bylaws Hearing

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015

7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Registration Open
8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. NJSNA Voting Business Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. NCLEX Mini-Review (Pre-Registration Required)
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Morning Continuing Education Session
10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Continuing Education Sessions
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Institute for Nursing Research Luncheon
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch on your own
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Student Program
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Continuing Education Session
2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Continuing Education Session
4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. Health Care Plenary Session
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Institute for Nursing Sylvia C. Edge Reception/Silent Auction

POST CONVENTION DAY – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2015

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. 2015 New Jersey Continuing Nursing Education Program
NJ Sharing Network Collaborates with Multicultural Nursing Associations

What an historic day it was on January 12, 2015 as the NJ Sharing Network hosted the inaugural meeting of the multi-cultural nursing association collaborative, committed to saving and enhancing lives throughout NJ and beyond. This is just the beginning of an unprecedented and amazing relationship to communicate the work of the NJ Sharing Network!

Did you know: 120,000 people in the US are waiting for life-saving organ transplants, nearly 5,000 NJ residents are on the transplant waiting list, and 18 people die each day waiting for a needed organ. To get involved or be an organ donor, visit www.NJSharingNetwork.org.

HELP WANTED... 100 NURSES NEEDED

Donating just 104 a day ($36.50 annually) will help the Institute for Nursing continuing its mission of supporting the nursing profession.

GIVE $36.50

Enroll in an MSN program dedicated to advanced study in nursing education.

Additional programs: R.J.N. & B.S. Health Administration*, Online MS in Nutrition, MS Health Administration*.

*Approval expected June 2015

Email today: 973-326-4125 or apply@set.edu.

Learn today, lead tomorrow.

NJSHARINGNETWORK.COM

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*Approval expected June 2015

Email today: 973-326-4125 or apply@set.edu.
Region 1: Morris, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren.

APPOINTMENTS AND CONGRATULATIONS:
Carrig delivered food received from our January 11th and 16th 2014, to provide health education and screenings.
Region 1 also collects food items for donations at our meetings. Passaic County Coordinator Barbara L. Blankenstein reminded everyone of the importance of volunteering. The monthly meeting held on August 1st at Lake Mohawk Country Club in Sparta.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:
Morris County Coordinator Jose Sanchez continued our tradition of Trinity Lutheran Church Faith Kitchen by bringing Region 1 nurses as well as William Paterson University nursing students to Dover on December 14th and 16th 2014, to provide health education and screenings.
Region 1 also collects food items for donations at our meetings. Passaic County Coordinator Barbara L. Blankenstein reminded everyone of the importance of volunteering. The monthly meeting held on August 1st at Lake Mohawk Country Club in Sparta.

President Dan Misa. Please join us at one of our future meetings to learn more about these programs.

EVENTS:
Region 1 members attended and represented NJSNA at the Chester Schools Science Fair as judges for the nursing science category on March 7th, 2015. Our annual dinner meeting will be held during National Nurses Week on May 12th at 6:00 PM at the Rockaway River Country Club in Denville. Our installation brunch for newly elected officers will be held on August 1st at the Lake Mohawk Country Club in Sparta.

CONNECT with REGION 1:
Communication is key. Please connect with us on the NJSNA.org website or on our Facebook page or e-mail President Dan Misa. Please join us at one of our board meetings, enjoy networking and support, and participate in great discussions regarding health care policy. Region 1 is also working on obtaining continuing education hours for educational programs offered, as well as a mentorship program for support of nursing students and registered nurses. E-mail us with any concerns impacting nurses or nursing practice or if you have any ideas or opportunities for Region 1 to serve any of our communities. We are here to make a difference, whether it is big or small, and would love it if you joined us. Hope to see you there! Thank you.

November 22, 2014, Region 3 had its Fall meeting on November 18th elected to not utilize a holiday session. The topic was on the new oral medication for treatment of MS.

Healthcare in the community was reported. Region 2 members presented an educational program on the topic of population health and the Affordable Care Act, which was presented by Region 1 Vice President for Education, Cheryl Beers-Cullen.
A meeting on March 21st was held at Newton Medical Center. Future meetings include the annual meeting on May 12 at Rockaway River Country Club and fall meeting on October 17th at Hackettstown Regional Medical Center. Additional information on these meetings is available on www.njsna.org and on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NJSNARegion1.

Nominations Committee positions.
Region 2 is proud of Susan Cacciola and Florence Jennes for their efforts in continuing education for nursing. A general meeting was open for members of Region 2 during convention in President’s room.
The Region’s Bylaws Committee met October 14th to initiate by-laws adoption to conform with the newly enacted NJSNA Bylaws changes; a special thank you to both Helen Donovan and Florence Jennes.

Region 2: Bergen, Hudson
Patricia J. August RN, MSN, BC President

The fourth quarter of 2014 was an active time for the Region. Many nurses and nursing students attended the NJSNA Annual Convention from Bergen and Hudson County. Feedback on the event was informative, a great way to celebrate nursing and network was reported. Region 2 members presented educational sessions. Region 2 is proud of Susan Cacciola and Florence Jennes for their efforts in continuing education for nursing. A general meeting was open for members of Region 2 during convention in President’s room.
The Region’s Bylaws Committee met October 14th to initiate by-laws adoption to conform with the newly enacted NJSNA Bylaws changes; a special thank you to both Helen Donovan and Florence Jennes.

The Finance Committee, composed of Nanci Skowronsik, Kathleen Vargas, Ingrid Brawo and myself, as President, was held to discuss postcard tax filing for the year and discussion of the need for a CPA to review our finances. Pros and Cons for each topic were considered. The general membership meeting on November 18th elected to not utilize a CPA for our financial records.
Region 2 member, Irene Brown assisted in reorganizing the Region’s archived documents.

Nominations Committee is available on www.njsna.org and on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NJSNARegion1.

In addition, as President, you may contact me at 201-328-4056 for any questions or information.

REGION 3 – Essex, Union
Rosemarie D. Rosales, BSN, MPA, RN, CCRN, CPHQ, Immediate Past-President

On November 22, 2014, Region 3 had its Fall general membership meeting held at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital Rahway. It was attended by most of the executive board and some members. A one hour Contact Hour was given on Stroke by our President-RN, Varsha Singh. As the outgoing President of Region 3, I would like to thank the executive board for their tireless support during my tenure as President and of course Norma Rodgers, incoming President of Region 3 executive board members, Good Luck and I will continue to be with you as your immediate past-president and will continue to support our goals and mission.

Region 4 – Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex
Regina Adams, BSN, RN, President

I would like to extend a warm welcome and congratulations to the newly elected Region 4 board members: President-Elect - Susan Fowler; Member at Large - Rebecca Blankenstein,
Membership - Danielle M. Broder, VP Communications - Teya Santiago. Member at Large Mercer - Margaret Kelly, VP Institute for Nursing - Miriam Cohen. I look forward to working with you all.

Region 4 held a Region dinner meeting on January 12. Seton Hall University, Assistant Professor, Dorothy Carolina, PhD, RN, discussed research she has conducted on “Compassion Fatigue.” Dr. Carolina provided information on the prevalence of compassion fatigue in nurses and how to identify signs, the impact of compassion fatigue on the individual and on the organization, as well as strategies to prevent it. The program was informative and well attended. Participants earned 1.1 contact hours. This complementary meeting was open to all nurses, members and nonmembers, and Regions. Please feel free to attend our region meetings and bring a friend.

Want to become more involved? Region 4 has one open board position (Member at Large - Somerset). If there is anyone interested please contact me at 609-802-3594. Have an idea for an educational program? Please send an email to gina.adams73@gmail.com.

In an effort to encourage more member participation, the Region has decided to start meeting regularly at headquarters on the second Monday of every other month. Please check www.NJSNA.org for regular updates on events and educational programs.

Make sure your profile/email information is correct as this is the main source of communication.

Keep an eye out for information regarding “A Day at the Statehouse.” This event will be planned on June 18, according to the legislative calendar for maximum learning opportunity for attendees. If you have not had an opportunity to start meeting regularly at headquarters on the second Monday of every other month. Please check www.NJSNA.org for regular updates on events and educational programs.

An Executive Board reorganization meeting was held in early February. Upcoming events in the region included educational programs in Monmouth County and in Atlantic County, marching at the annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Atlantic County and in Ocean County. Plans for expansion of membership and increasing marketing and communication to members and prospective members were discussed.

Region 6 was well represented at the NJSNA Installation of Officers on January 10th. Judy Schmidt was presented with the Past President Pin by Norma Evans. The newly installed President of NJSNA, Eleanor Dietrich-Whittington was installed as Treasurer of the Board of Directors, and Kathleen Mullen as Director, Staff Nurse. Region 6 members JoAnne Penn and Linda Gural were installed to the Nominating Committee. Region 6 officers Peggy Lasoff, President, Wendy Ebner, President-Elect, and Kathleen Mullen, VP Communications were installed at the January 10th meeting as well. Additional Region 6 elected officers include Lauren Mulrooney, Secretary, Grace Reilly, VP Congress on Policy & Practice, Mary Fortier, Ocean County Chair, Marge Deshon, Cape May County Chair, Raymond Wilson, Monmouth County Chair and Nominating Committee members, Deanna Grossman, and Sally Wilson.

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Keep an eye out for information regarding “A Day at the Statehouse.” This event will be planned on June 18, according to the legislative calendar for maximum learning opportunity for attendees. If you have not had an opportunity to attend, this is a wonderful learning experience. This is an eye opening experience on the importance of the role of nurses in the legislative process.

Region 6 - Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, Ocean
Kathy Mullen, MSN, RN VP Communications

A convivial Holiday Dinner was attended by officers and members of the Region in December. Two NJSNA 2014 Diva Honorees were present: Barbara Blozen, Region 6 VP for the Institute of Nursing, and Stephanie Chung. Plans for expansion of membership and increasing marketing and communication to members and prospective members were discussed.

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Muñoz Memorializes US Cadet Nurse Corps with Resolution Approved by Assembly Panel

Resolution by Assemblywoman Nancy F. Muñoz (D21) commemorating the life-saving contributions of women in the US Cadet Nurse Corps earned unanimous approval of the Military and Veterans’ Affairs Committee. The resolution (AR-129) designates July 1, 2015 as U.S. Cadet Nurses Day. “The Cadet Nurses Corps changed the face of nursing in this country,” said Muñoz, whose mother was a member of one of the final Corps classes. World War II was still going on, and she became a nurse through the program. Cadet Nurses were World War II heroes on the home front. During the war, with so many nurses committed to military service, there was a critical shortage of skilled nurses for the nation's hospitals. Within two years of the formation of the corps, Cadet Nurses accounted for 80 percent of American nursing care. We should celebrate their efforts and preserve their memory.”

American nursing schools, which previously only accepted white students, were integrated by the US Cadet Nurse Corps, which recruited thousands of African-American women nurses.

The Corps prepared more than 124,000 desperately needed nurses, and was responsible for increasing the educational standards of many of the country’s nursing schools. While war waged overseas, the US Cadet Nurses battled polio and tuberculosis epidemics, and after the war, many continued to be employed in nursing.

Serving in her third term, Assemblywoman Muñoz, RN, MSN, a clinical nurse specialist, is one of three nurses elected to the NJ General Assembly. She serves on the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee.
SAINT MICHAEL’S MEDICAL CENTER is a regional tertiary-care, teaching and research hospital serving the Newark, New Jersey community since 1867.

Join Our Team of Health Care Providers

Nurse Manager Cardiac Recovery
Bachelors of Science in Nursing, Master’s preferred. Active New Jersey Registered Nurse License, 5-10 years staff experience and 2-5 years managerial experience.

Nurse Manager PACU & OR
Bachelors of Science in Nursing, Master’s preferred. Active New Jersey Registered Nurse License, 5-10 years staff experience and 2-5 years managerial experience.

Nurse Manager Behavioral Health
Master’s in Nursing. Active New Jersey Registered Nurse License, 5-10 years staff experience and 2-5 years managerial experience.

Director of Education & Practice
Bachelors of Science in Nursing. Masters preferred. Active New Jersey Nurse License. 3-5 years experience in instructional design and delivery of technical and management training, and organizational development.

Program Director Population Management
Must have knowledge of complex chronic medical conditions and be able to build innovative, evidence based care models that address the needs of the target population. A minimum of Clinical Healthcare Masters is required as well as experience in program management and community outreach.

Registered Nurses (MICU, Emergency Room, Medical/Surgical)
Critical Care RN: BSN degree. Active NJ RN License. Active BLS, ACLS Certifications. 3 years of critical care experience. Emergency Department RN: BSN degree. Active NJ RN License. Active BLS, ACLS, PALS Certifications and a minimum of 2 years critical care or emergency department experience.


We offer a competitive salary and benefits package including health insurance, retirement plan, and paid time off.

If interested in joining our team, visit us today at smmcnj.org/nurse or fax resume to (973) 877-5233.

Equal Opportunity Employer

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