In some instances, it involved selecting a product or device that was not only economical but was effective and user-friendly. At one point when I was in a director role, we were very strongly encouraged to select products from a contracted supply network. Though most of the available products were quite suitable, some were clearly inferior. In order to justify our desire to purchase out-of-network, we invited the corporate vice president responsible for materials management and others to a side-by-side product comparison. We demonstrated why other vendors’ products, though perhaps slightly more costly, were better suited for the patients and caregivers. We prevailed. While in an informatics role, there were many opportunities to suggest enhancements to a documentation screen or to recommend use of a different system functionality that would be more user-friendly and more efficient. This required more hours designing, building and testing, but it met the goal of supporting the clinicians and patients.

The concept of supporting those at the customer interface can be manifested in many other forms and by those in many other roles. Additional examples include developing a policy or procedure, defining standards and expectations, delivering an educational experience, participating in committees and task forces, designing a research study, disseminating information and knowledge, engaging in discourse with caregivers and patients to identify opportunities for improvement, coaching coworkers, implementing new strategies, inviting and accepting feedback, and taking appropriate follow-up action.

It was clear at this year’s ANA-Maine Honors and Awards Luncheon that there are many in our midst who, though not in direct caregiver roles, are focused on supporting those who are. The testimonials that we read in support of their nominations and selections were quite moving and inspiring. It was clearly demonstrated that the honorees have adopted the philosophy of servant leadership and of enhancing
the environment in which care is delivered, the knowledge and skills of those giving care, and the policies and practices that impact health care delivery.

There is great work going on in our profession in Maine!

In June, I retired after a 40-year career in nursing that was very satisfying and challenging and which offered me the opportunity to work in a wide variety of clinical, education and administrative roles. Many nurses, however, choose the role of direct care givers throughout their careers, and I have to admit that I truly envy you who make that choice. You are working where "the rubber meets the road"! You are making a direct impact on the health, safety and well-being of those to whom you deliver care. The most poignant memories of my nursing career come from those years when I was at the bedside. When I was not working in a clinical role, I was often asked by family and friends if I missed being "a real nurse." In response, I attempted to explain the value that I brought while not in a direct care role was supporting those who were.

As the incoming President of ANA-Maine, I see my role and that of our Board of Directors in the same light. Our responsibility is to support the mission of ANA-Maine, our members, our profession and those who have direct impact on patient care. My hope is that, at the conclusion of our terms of office, you will agree that we have accomplished that.

We welcome and look forward to your participation and input and invite you to contact us to share any thoughts or concerns that you have. Best wishes for a happy and successful 2016!

Respectfully,

Patricia Boston
President
ANA-Maine

ANA Board Unanimous in $400K-$500K Support to Multistate Divisions!

Donna Policastro, Executive Director

Executive Directors and three Presidents representing the three multistate divisions met with an ANA subcommittee via teleconference to testify of success measures and varied plans for each division to achieve financial autonomy going forward. Testimony included the Northeast Division leaders opting to preserve state association autonomy and to incorporate the NE MSB as a service corporation to supply the business infrastructure of member states. The Midwest, on the other hand, opted to merge all member associations into a regional nursing association. All evidenced growth in services, governance modeling and membership.

The group was then petitioned to meet with the entire ANA-Board; President Cipriano requested the three Presidents speak; President Cipriano queried; the Board listened. The vote was called; only one comment filled the “any further discussion” period. It was a statement of full support. The Board voted unanimous approval of our request for the 2016 ANA Budget providing $400K to $500K to be shared among the three multistate divisions! We are humbled, grateful, committed!

www.anamaine.org

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Contents of this newsletter are the opinion of the author alone and do not reflect the official position of ANA-Maine unless specifically indicated. We always invite leaders of specialty organizations to contribute.

ANA-Maine Editoral Committee

Michelle L. Schweizer (Editor)
Patricia Boston, MSN, RN, RRT
Jean Dyer, PhD, MSN, BSN, CNE
Irene J. Eaton, MSN, RN, CS
Julia L Heureux, BS, RN, MHSA

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Past President’s Message

I leave the office of President with deep appreciation for member and Board willingness to pioneer new territory in non-profit, small association management and for outstanding leaders who have moved committee work to the next level. Please accept my profound gratitude.

It is my great pleasure to congratulate recently elected President Patricia Boston, President-elect Catherine Lorello-Snow, Treasurer Jean Dyer and Directors at large Tracy Bonney-Corson, Joanne Chapman and Carla Randall. This dynamic nine-member Board will be complete with Secretary Cynthia Rice along with Directors at large Paula Delahanty and Amander Wotton continuing in their second year of term. Among you, there is tremendous potential to move ANA-MAINE and the Northeast Multistate Division forward. I cheer you on and offer any support needed to achieve that potential.

Finally, none of this would be possible without you, the membership. You have inspired me when we were fortunate enough to meet or you called with a need. You are more than a membership count. Behind each member number lives a professional with unique talents, needs, goals, and the potential to inspire and challenge others. You are what this association is all about – you and the people we collectively serve.

Thank you for the journey.

Immediate Past President

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Presidents Immersion Course

The course met several objectives. One was to familiarize us with ANA leadership. Related topics included delineating roles and responsibilities of executive directors, presidents, board members and staff of state associations; communications and media training; legal requirements and compliance issues for non-profit boards; conducting effective meetings; financial management and accounting principles; and strategic planning. One of the newer concepts presented was that of “generative thinking” which is an intriguing approach to viewing the role of governance and leadership.

The fourth objective was to network and share experiences with those from other state associations. This was accomplished through group work sessions as well as several opportunities provided for networking. All of the above made the course well worth attending. Additionally, we were offered an optional lunchtime tour of ANA headquarters on the final day of the course, and what a serendipitous experience that was! The main hallway outside ANA’s offices includes two striking features. The first is a set of three murals, depicting nursing’s past, present and future. The second is the display of portraits of nearly ninety nurses who have been inducted into the ANA Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame, which originated in 1976, “recognizes an individual’s lifelong commitment to the field of nursing and its enduring impact on the health and/or social/political history of the United States.” Looking at the many faces and reading the names of those leaders was a humbling experience and one which kindled my pride in our profession. A third highlight of that tour was viewing a letter handwritten by Florence Nightingale!

Although ANA will no longer offer a Presidents Immersion Course in this format, the content will be incorporated into the program of a Leadership Summit, starting in November of this year.

To apply, submit cover letter, resume and transcripts to:

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We Invite YOU to Join Important Committee Work at ANA-MAINE

Irene Eaton, MSN, RN, CS

Accolades to Lori Hillock, Kelly Collins, Barbara Hannon-Visio, Rachel Albert, and Carol Fackler for interest in ANA-MAINE leadership! Your bios impressively represent varied areas of practice, expertise, and interest. We need and value your influence potential for the profession, our association, and fellow members.

Committee work is, in my opinion, where “it” all happens – the stuff that materializes Board decisions. I invite you to view the missed vote as an opportunity to make a difference at the heart of association work – the place where leadership directly impacts and connects with members and non-members.

I choose to be bold and go out on a limb – using this amazing group of professionals as an exemplar of hoping to match interest to service. Lori Hillock has worked with quality and audits. Can you see these skills and talents applied to membership engagement and retention via the Membership Committee? Barbara Hannon-Visio has an interest in finance; awesome that she has agreed to meet the Finance Committee? Kelly Collins, expressed passion about educating current nurses and welcoming new graduates into the profession. Can you see this driving member-available Leadership Development, new grad or new-nurse-in-practice Welcome to the Profession Toolkit, or possibly working with Susan White and Della Jordan (through committee) in their work to preceptor/mentor new grads now legislatively allowed to enter practice in Community Health?

ANA is seeking nurses with five years’ practice to mentor new grads; ANA-MAINE’s partnership with ANA invites you to make a difference at the heart of association work – the place where leadership directly impacts and connects with members and non-members.

I remain available as member and past president. Contact me any time with questions or just the need to chat toward clarifying a question or commitment. Irene.eaton@anamaine.org

Respectfully and sincerely,

Legislative Committee

Two members of the ANA-MAINE Legislative Committee gave a presentation with Representative Christine Burnstein at the annual meeting in Portland, ME. Left to Right: Representative Christine Burnstein, Carey Clark, and Juliana L’Heureux.

Hannon-Visio has an interest in finance; awesome that she has agreed to join the Finance Committee! Kelly Collins, expressed passion about educating current nurses and welcoming new graduates into the profession. Can you see this driving member-available Leadership Development, new grad or new-nurse-in-practice Welcome to the Profession Toolkit, or possibly working with Susan White and Della Jordan (through committee) in their work to preceptor/mentor new grads now legislatively allowed to enter practice in Community Health?

ANA is seeking nurses with five years’ practice to mentor new grads; ANA-MAINE’s partnership with ANA makes all this readily available to members. Committee work could be through the Student-Scholarship Committee and/or Membership Committee...no committee is an island – unless I choose to be bold and go out on a limb – using this amazing group of professionals as an exemplar of hoping to match interest to service. Lori Hillock has worked with quality and audits. Can you see these skills and talents applied to membership engagement and retention via the Membership Committee? Barbara Hannon-Visio has an interest in finance; awesome that she has agreed to join the Finance Committee! Kelly Collins, expressed passion about educating current nurses and welcoming new graduates into the profession. Can you see this driving member-available Leadership Development, new grad or new-nurse-in-practice Welcome to the Profession Toolkit, or possibly working with Susan White and Della Jordan (through committee) in their work to preceptor/mentor new grads now legislatively allowed to enter practice in Community Health?

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I remain available as member and past president. Contact me any time with questions or just the need to chat toward clarifying a question or commitment. Irene.eaton@anamaine.org

Respectfully and sincerely,
Dr. Marjorie Wiggins, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC
Advocating Holistic Professional Growth, Empowering Leaders and Promotion of the Professional Nursing Association

President Eaton learned that Dr. Wiggins, CNO and Senior VP for Patient Care Services at MMC had been nominated for the Agnes Flaherty Award by members of the MMC staff. She petitioned Joanne Chapman, Chair Awards Committee to gain permission to proffer the President’s Award and to use excerpts from the nomination document. Familiar with Marge’s leadership, Irene needed more of an inside view to articulate the immense difference she has made for her staff, interdisciplinary practice and the communities that MMC serves. Marge has been a stalwart supporter of this professional association through encouragement, supporting leadership involvement and financial support. Excerpts from MMC nursing follow:

“Like a beacon from the Portland Head Light shining into the fog and lighting the way for sailors requiring guidance and support, so Dr. Wiggins has been for her hundreds of nurses at MMC since her arrival in 2001. Her leadership has been unwavering from her initial nursing focus upon being hired… involving 120 meetings with RNs throughout the hospital asking “what are the top 3 issues that concern you most?”… she listened to her staff and respected their concerns… established a visioning group to create a “timeless nursing vision” and established our nursing mission. That group rebuilt MMC nursing by creating the foundation of what we are today…the development of nursing’s mission, vision and strategic goals, the inception of a robust shared governance model was created. This model values the collaborative approach. As the Senior Vice President of Patient Care Services, Dr. Wiggins treats every discipline with dignity and respect. She has created an environment where every team member’s input is valued and respected for their unique contributions… Decisions are made at the Council level by bedside nurses, not administration… exemplify Dr. Wiggins’ belief of shared governance for bedside nurses and the powerful belief that nurses have a voice… MMC nurses are involved in over 37 IRB research studies…and often present their work nationally. Under her leadership, we have become better nurses, better professionals, better care givers, better people.”

Dr. Marjorie Wiggins, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC

Myra Broadway, JD, MS, RN
Maine State Board of Nursing Executive Director
Recognizing exemplary leadership, tenacity and professionalism
Promoting safe practice, policy and regulatory leadership
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President Eaton had appreciated Myra’s work at both the state and national level; Myra served nationally as the President of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. It wasn’t until her retirement party that Irene saw the immensity of this person, Myra Broadway. With a strong, penchant for the out of doors and a love of training service dogs, Myra attends life balance few of us are wise enough to do. She readily accepted the often-arduous challenges in front of her. Disagreement did not distract her from issues on the table requiring her leadership to attend ethical, legally compliant and professionally correct decisions to each. The room was filled with people from every walk of life. It was obvious that Myra was equally attentive to each. Myra Broadway, you have a dynamic presence, indomitable spirit, and a countenance that captures. Thank you for your incredible service to the profession and the peoples of Maine.

Donna Policastro, Executive Director
With Gratitude for your Courage and Leadership

Donna Policastro is widely recognized nationally through her work as Rhode Island Nursing Association’s Executive Director and ultimately Executive Director of the Northeast Multistate Division. ANA-MAINE is fortunate to have subcontracted for her services as the first ANA-MAINE executive director. Donna brings an expanded worldview, enviable experience and developed expertise to this association. She has demonstrated immense patience as the Board transitions from a controlling-the-business orientation to a governance model that demonstrates attention to professional collaboration, advocacy, policy, leadership, and professional development. Thank you for your courage to lead this association toward sound and successful business efforts!
The December 5, 2015 Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon recognized and celebrated courageous, outside-of-the-common-box leadership and creativity to achieve excellence in nursing leadership and nursing education. The Agnes E. Flaherty Award was presented to Deborah Bachand, BSN, RN, NE-BC in recognition of her leadership, courage and commitment to excellence. Excerpts from her nomination attributes include a sampling of the accolades:

“Firm, fair and consistent leadership…always takes time to know her staff individually and is cognizant of each one’s skills, passions, and talents...her mentorship, guidance and vision…attending the units goals along with the individual’s professional development goals…practices a flat leadership style that promotes the abilities of other team members…embodies transformational leadership.”

The Sister Consuela White Spirit of Nursing Award was presented to Carey Clark, PhD, RN, AHN-BC in recognition of her care, concern, respect and knowledge. Excerpts of her nomination attributes include a sampling of Carey’s accolades:

“(The RN-BSN) curriculum she developed received full accreditation by ACEN and national recognition by the American Holistic Nurses Association as demonstrating Excellence in Holistic Nursing Education...designed the curriculum so that students have the opportunity to self-care and re-frame every course, and points are awarded for their efforts in this area...brings her holistic-caring expertise to her work with students, faculty…passion for supporting others in their self-care through supporting their understanding of psychoneuroimmunology and stress management...brings it to the larger community through RSU-1 Early Childhood Education Advisory Council, The Wellness Connection of Maine, a monthly health and healing related blog in The Kennebec Journal and her grassroots involvement with the Nurse Manifest Project.”

The Sister Consuela White Spirit of Nursing Award was presented to Carey Clark, recipient of the Sister Consuela White Spirit of Nursing Award. Carey is a professor at University of Maine, Augusta.

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Poster Presentations

Juliana L’Heureux and Susan Henderson

University of Southern Maine nursing students Gabriele Stojanovic and Kate Lydon with Nursing Professor and ANA-MAINE Director Carla Randall

Liz Beal, Maine General Medical Center

Attendees enjoy the poster presentations and chatting with vendors

Riverview Psychiatric Center provided information on stress management

Jean Dyer, ANA-MAINE Treasurer, visits with vendors at the Maine Bureau of Insurance booth

Stephanie Briggs provided information online undergraduate and graduate programs at Saint Joseph’s College

Eastern Maine Health Services provided information at their vendor booth

Announcing the 2015 sponsors and vendors

Karen Daley, ANA Past President, presents Care Coordination at the Intersection of Patient Quality and Safety

Patricia Boston presents Call to Action as the newly elected President of ANA-MAINE

Irene Eaton, ANA-MAINE Immediate Past President; Karen Daley, ANA Past President, and Patricia Boston, ANA-MAINE President

Donna Policastro, ANA-MAINE Executive Director, shares news about the Northeast Multi-State division.
Irene Eaton, ANA-MAINE president, presents Representative Christine Burstein, RNP, with a commendation award for her efforts toward healthcare funding, safe food storage, environmental issues, and reproductive health.

Irene Eaton, ANA-MAINE Immediate Past President received recognition award for her eight years of board work. Patricia Boston, ANA-MAINE President presented the award.

Irene Eaton, ANA-MAINE Immediate Past President and Karen Daley, ANA Past President

Irene Eaton, ANA-MAINE Immediate Past President and Karen Daley, ANA Past President

Carey Clark, Juliana L’Heureux, Myra Broadway, and Susan Henderson enjoy networking at the ANA-MAINE Annual Meeting

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ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS LUNCHEON
Maine Nursing: Interviews and History of Caring and Competence authored by Valerie Hart, Susan Henderson, Juliana L’Heureux, and Ann Sossong and edited by Mary Pelletier MS, BS, RN is being published by The History Press and will be available in April/May, 2016. This book preserves the wisdom and memories of Maine nurses in their own words, recognizes significant historical events and honors the nursing profession’s contributions to the health and well-being of the people of Maine over the hundred year period, 1914-2015.

The 100th anniversary of the American Nurses Association in Maine was in 2014 and the 100th anniversary of registration of Maine nurses was in 2015. The Centennial Project committee, which consisted of Myra Broadway, JD, MS, RN, Ann Sossong, RN, PhD, NE-BC, Beth Clark, PhD, RN, Juliana L’Heureux, BS, MHSAS, RN, Martha Eastman, PhD, MS, BS, CMC, Marla Davis, MS, RN, Susan Henderson, RN, BS, MA and Valerie Hart, EdD, PMHCNS-BC, sought to celebrate these events by writing a book of oral histories of Maine nurses. Work on oral histories done previously by many others served as a foundation for the project and is acknowledged in the book. The group met regularly – planning and collaborating for over two years. ANA-MAINE, Kappa Zeta-at Large, Omicron Xi Chapter at Large and the Maine Nursing Practice Consortium donated money that helped support costs. The work has finally come to fruition with publication of Maine Nursing: Interviews and History of Caring and Competence scheduled for April/May of this year!

Only a tiny sample of Maine’s nurses could be interviewed. Based on their accomplishments, countless more could have been included. The intent of the book is to honor all Maine nurses by telling stories of caring and competence linking the past and present and providing a path into the future.

The American Nurses Foundation agreed to accept all royalties from the sale of the book with the intent of establishing a Maine Nursing Research Fund whose purpose will be to assist a Maine nursing researcher in accordance with the Foundation’s grant policies.

Nursing Centennial Book to be Published in Spring 2016

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Houlton Regional Hospital is located in Northern Maine where all four seasons are enjoyed.

Visit our website at www2.houltonregional.org
Thank You Letter from Charlie Kettell

On behalf of Bettie’s entire family, I thank you for your article about Bettie Kettell’s sudden passing. The nurse’s perspective of our environment, its fragility, contamination by poorly tested chemicals and their effect on humans was indeed a passion for her, and she was very vocal to all, of the present and future environmental and industrial challenges to our health. One of the objects of her personal lobbying was Triclosan, which has since been shown to be an ineffective antibacterial at the “doses” currently included in soaps and hygiene products such as toothpaste, as well as being an irritant to skin. She would have loved to have seen this in print, although she already “knew” it!

Thank you!
Charlie Kettell
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Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
The School of Nursing is accepting applications for our revised Doctor of Nursing Practice. This program is now primarily online with two on-campus sessions per semester. The 36 credit curriculum is designed for Advanced Practice Nurses wishing to pursue a clinical doctorate. Application deadline is May 15.

Master of Science in Nursing Education
We are also accepting applications for our Master of Science program with a concentration in Nursing Education. Application deadline is May 1 for fall admission, and October 1 for spring admission.

For additional information visit:
usm.maine.edu/nursing/dnp-nursing
usm.maine.edu/nursing/ms-nursing-education

Faculty position: Fall 2016
The University of Southern Maine’s School of Nursing invites applications for a full-time, academic year faculty appointment at the Lecturer rank. The successful candidate must be able to teach across the undergraduate and graduate curriculums. Expertise in a variety of areas will be considered including adult/medical-surgical nursing, community health, and integrative and holistic health. Master’s Degree in Nursing by time of appointment required and licensed or eligible for RN licensure in the state of Maine. Applications must be submitted by March 15.

For full-time faculty positions visit:
usm.maine.edu/hr/career-opportunities

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