ASNA does not endorse candidates, but each year we identify target issues that impact nurses of all specialties. We focus on these and other issues as they arise through our ASNA lobbyists, legislative committee and collaborative relationships with other nursing organizations. During the Legislative Session, an ASNA Executive Director Legislative Report is sent via email to ASNA members and is available to all nurses online at alabamanurses.org. The following are some of the issues on the ASNA 2016 Legislative Agenda:

- Continue to promote full scope of practice for APRNs
- Support full funding for Medicaid
- Support and promote the Governor’s student loan repayment plan for qualified nurses committing to serve in rural areas
- Support full funding for the Nurse Educator Scholarship program
- Oppose legislation that would provide large fees for non-nurse midwives to practice as professionals in Alabama
- Get nurse representation on RCO Community Advisory Committees (The RCOs govern the healthcare delivery system for over 300,000 Alabama citizens)
The new NURSE PLATINUM VISA CARD helps Alabama nurses get the “credit” they deserve!

You may have missed an untold amount of $$$ discounts because cashers don’t realize you are a nurse. Now, when you use your NURSE PLATINUM VISA CARD for purchases BAM! NO MISSED DISCOUNTS! ASNA is proud to introduce Alabama’s first NURSE PLATINUM VISA CARD. Like the auto license plates it features the theme “Nurses Save Lives.” And, like the car tags the card is available to all 93,000 Alabama nurses with no strings attached to membership in a professional organization.

That’s right, you don’t have to be an ASNA member to get one. You just go to alabamanurses.org click on the card image and you will go to the Visa application page instantly. This is off-site from ASNA’s web page and ASNA has no access to any personal or financial information. It’s all between you and the bank from that point forward. There is a small fee that ASNA receives to support the nursing profession. The fee does not diminish in any way, cardholder benefits...that are great! So, you can get a cool NURSE PLATINUM VISA CARD with tons of competitive cardholder benefits, receive extra discounts from many stores and help nursing all at the same time. Check out the NURSE PLATINUM VISA CARD ad on page 3 of the Alabama Nurse and go for it!

Condolences:
Donna Everett in the death of her mother.
The family of Virginia Jenkins, Virginia was a long time member of District I.
Mary Ann Austin in the death of her sister.
April Bishop, Staff at ASNA, in the death of her Father, Kenneth Kelch, II.

www.alabamanurses.org

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PUBLICATION

The Alabama Nurse Publication Schedule for 2016

Issue Material Due to ASNA Office
June/July/August April 25, 2016
Sept/Oct/Nov August 1, 2016
Dec/Jan/Feb 2017 October 17, 2016

Guidelines for Article Development

The ASNA welcomes articles for publication. There is no payment for articles published in The Alabama Nurse.
1. Articles should be Microsoft Word using a 12 point font.
2. Article length should not exceed five (5) pages 8 x 11.
3. All references should be cited at the end of the article.
4. Articles should be submitted electronically.

Submissions should be sent to:
edasn@alabamanurses.org
or
Editor, The Alabama Nurse
Alabama State Nurses Association
360 North Hull Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

ASNA reserves the right to not publish submissions.

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The Alabama Nurse is published quarterly every March, June, September and December for the Alabama State Nurses Association, 360 North Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

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March, April, May 2016

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Director Leadership Services, Charlene Roberson, MED, RN-BC
ASNA Attorney, Don Eddins, JD
Administrative Coordinator, Betty Chambless Programs Coordinator, April Bishop, BS, ASHT

Our Vision

ASNA is the professional voice of all registered nurses in Alabama.

Our Values

- Modeling professional nursing practices to other nurses
- Adhering to the Code of Ethics for Nurses
- Becoming more recognizably influential as an association
- Unifying nurses
- Advocating for nurses
- Promoting cultural diversity
- Promoting health parity
- Advancing professional competence
- Promoting the ethical care and the human dignity of every person
- Maintaining integrity in all nursing careers

Our Mission

ASNA is committed to promoting excellence in nursing.
Hello Alabama nurses! Just in case you haven’t been told lately, you are awesome! Thank you for the sacrifice you make each and every day. You are appreciated!

I know most of you are aware that change and chaos is an everyday occurrence in our healthcare environment.

The good thing about change is that you can always rely on it to happen. If we didn’t have change, we wouldn’t have any change! Meaning, we wouldn’t have any improvements, have the need for new ideas, new thinking, new behaviors, and better performance and outcomes.

In our healthcare system, workplace, and in the nursing profession we need leaders that embrace change and inspire others to see change as an opportunity to create new methods that create value. Are you this type of leader? If not, you can be.

Leadership is not defined by a position, but a skill set that can be learned (Porter-O’Grady & Malloch, 2015). A transformational leader is one that can translate vision, a new direction, and goals and then inspire others to create new ways to meet the ever-changing, chaotic healthcare world we live in.

I see nurses every day inspiring their healthcare teams to think differently, change behaviors, and create new processes that improves patient safety, patient outcomes, organizational outcomes, and on a larger scale, make improvements to our healthcare system. As nurses we need to stand out as leaders! Our healthcare system needs leaders that embrace change and inspire others to lead. As a fellow nurse, I am asking you to become that leader that we all need! There are so many ways you can lead. Set a strategy to learn new leadership skills each day and use them to improve the care you deliver, processes, work environment, healthcare system, others, and yourself. You can make a difference no matter your workplace.

Also, ASNA needs more leaders. ASNA needs you!

If you desire to develop your leadership skills, ASNA has the program for you. Our 2016 Alabama Nurse Leadership Academy helps nurses develop skills for personal advancement and leadership in our profession.

ASNA strives to be the voice for all Alabama Nurses. We are instrumental in lobbying and/or developing legislation that will impact nurses, our care teams, and those we serve. We hold cutting edge training that creates excellence in nursing. We have nurse leaders serving on local, state, and national health committees. Come join our ASNA team and let’s work together to lead the way!

As your ASNA President, I would like to keep you informed of ASNA activities and ways you can be active in ASNA and our nursing profession. Please review the following list of updates and upcoming ASNA activities:

• Nurse Car Tag – “Nurses Save Lives” – Car Tags are Available! Remember, the money created from car tags will go to the Alabama Nurse Foundation (ANF). The ANF is a non-profit ASNA set up years ago for promoting the profession, education, and nursing scholarships.

• The Elizabeth A. Morris Clinical Education Sessions-FACES, April 12, 2016 – this annual event hosted by the Alabama Coalition of Nursing Organizations is the perfect environment for nurses and nursing students to keep abreast with clinical topics.

I would like to encourage you to be active within your ASNA District. Your District is where you build relationships, do community-service, network, attend continuing education events, and receive more ASNA communication. Please contact your District Presidents below regarding your District activities and involvement:

• District 1 – Sarah Wilkinson, MSN, BSN, BA, RN – swilkinsonw@yahoo.com
• District 2 – Julie Savage Jones, MSN, RN – sjones5@bama.ua.edu
• District 3 – Wanda Spillers, DNP, RN, CCM, NE-BC – wbspillers@yahoo.com
• District 4 – Erica Elkins Little, MSN, RN – ericakelittle18@gmail.com
• District 5 – Janice Wynn, RN-BC – jmwynn@samc.org

You are a Leader!

Brian Buchmann
BSN, RN, MBA

The Elizabeth A. Morris Clinical Education Sessions-FACES, April 12, 2016 – this annual event hosted by the Alabama Coalition of Nursing Organizations is the perfect environment for nurses and nursing students to keep abreast with clinical topics.
“We will KILL any bill the nurses bring forward”
Dr. John C. Ziegler, MA, D, MIN

“We will kill any bill the nurses bring forward.” These are the exact words said to me by a lobbyist from another reputable healthcare association during a recent Alabama Legislative session. The statement was made in reference to a proposed bill that would simply add a nurse to the Regional Care Organization Boards. Other professions were legislatively mandated to have representatives at the table...i.e. Doctors, Pharmacists and even a member of the area Chamber of Commerce – but NO NURSES! To refresh your memory, the five RCO Boards established in Alabama control the delivery of healthcare to hundreds of thousands of Medicaid recipients and other patients. They were set up as an alternative to the “Obama Care” version of the Affordable Care Act adopted by many states. Alabama set up its own system. Adding a nurse to each of these 22 person RCO Boards would not upset the “balance of power” on Boards. Rather, it would provide valuable input from the largest professional group in healthcare and more importantly, the group that is closest to the actual delivery of care at the bedside...nurses. So, WHY KILL a bill that would add a nurse to the Boards? Two reasons. First, any legislation could open the door for more power struggles between groups already represented. Second, THEY DON’T CARE WHAT NURSES WANT. The power groups in DC don’t care and the Legislators don’t care for one reason and one reason only...they believe that nurses don’t care. “What are you talking about Ziegler? We nurses care about the industry, policies and how all that stuff affects our ability to deliver the best care to our patients.” The power groups know that less than 2% of Alabama’s 93,000 nurses are members of their professional associations. Associations like ASNA lobby for your scope of practice patients.” We will kill any bill the nurses bring forward.” These are the words said to me by a lobbyist from another reputable healthcare association during a recent Alabama Legislative session. The statement was made in reference to a proposed bill that would simply add a nurse to the Regional Care Organization Boards. Other professions were legislatively mandated to have representatives at the table...i.e. Doctors, Pharmacists and even a member of the area Chamber of Commerce – but NO NURSES! To refresh your memory, the five RCO Boards established in Alabama control the delivery of healthcare to hundreds of thousands of Medicaid recipients and other patients. They were set up as an alternative to the “Obama Care” version of the Affordable Care Act adopted by many states. Alabama set up its own system. Adding a nurse to each of these 22 person RCO Boards would not upset the “balance of power” on Boards. Rather, it would provide valuable input from the largest professional group in healthcare and more importantly, the group that is closest to the actual delivery of care at the bedside...nurses. So, WHY KILL a bill that would add a nurse to the Boards? Two reasons. First, any legislation could open the door for more power struggles between groups already represented. Second, THEY DON’T CARE WHAT NURSES WANT. The power groups in DC don’t care and the Legislators don’t care for one reason and one reason only...they believe that nurses don’t care. “What are you talking about Ziegler? We nurses care about the industry, policies and how all that stuff affects our ability to deliver the best care to our patients.” The power groups know that less than 2% of Alabama’s 93,000 nurses are members of their professional associations. Associations like ASNA lobby for your scope of practice patients.”
Don Eddins, BS, MS, JD

If you’re a registered nurse or licensed registered nurse practitioner, you’ve worked very hard for that precious license. So you don’t want to do anything to jeopardize it.

That means staying out of trouble with the Alabama Board of Nursing, which the Legislature has given authority over nursing licenses. Most of the time simply following procedures you have been taught and the use of good common sense will allow you to avoid license issues.

Licensure basically is controlled by the Nurse Practice Act, which is found at § 34-24-1 through 34-24-63, Code of Alabama 1975. The portion of the law relating to suspension and revocation may be found at § 34-21-25, Alabama Code, and of course on the basis of that statutory authority the BON has approved regulations for administration of the Nurse Practice Act. Those regulations are at 610-x-1 through 610-x-13, Alabama Administrative Code. Pertinent laws can be found on the Board of Nursing website.

The Nurse Practice Act places a premium on integrity. For instance, a license can be denied, suspended or revoked for fraud or deceit, as well as for crimes involving moral turpitude or “gross immorality.” Convictions of a felony may lead to a denial or revocation, although such conviction does not automatically disqualify a person for licensure.

Normally, a driving under the influence conviction in college will not prevent you from being licensed. But lying about it on the application could.

Diversion of prescriptive medications a problem in today’s society in which drug use is common and is something that gets nurses into trouble. When a nurse diverts a narcotic from a patient, it results in two bad outcomes. First, the patient in need of the pain meds suffer. Second, the nurse is impaired at work.

If you have a drug problem, please seek professional help. The BON has a very good program that allows nurses to seek treatment and return to work.

It is important that RNs and CRNPs are familiar with the nurse practice act. It is equally important to know your local procedures. You won’t get into trouble by deliberate adherence to the medical facility’s procedures.

Be careful what you chart. If you are to administer medications at a particular time, be certain your chart verifies that the meds were dispensed. But don’t note on the chart something that would lead a practitioner to ascertain that the patient needed follow-up (“Patient was lethargic and unresponsive”) unless the follow-up was done. And by all means follow up.

I’ve represented one or more nurses for pre-charting. Suppose a nurse was to administer a med at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and out of convenience when she made the 10 a.m. entry, went ahead and noted the 2 p.m. medication was administered. And then the nurse gets called home for a personal emergency at noon.

She already has stated that the 2 p.m. medication has been administered. That amounts to deceit. And what about the nurse who is called in to replace her and reads that the 2 p.m. meds already have been given? What is she to do? As a practical matter, she will go to her supervisor who will report the offending nurse to the BON.

There is nothing more precious to an RN’s career than that hard-earned license, so don’t do anything to jeopardize it.

But if you do get a letter of investigation from the Board of Nursing, the good news is that if you are a member of the Alabama State Nurses’ Association the event in question occurred, you are due representation from the ASNA lawyer before the BON. That reassurance if often worth the price of membership, without even considering all the other benefits members receive.
In recognition of the impact nursing has on patient outcomes and the quality of care, the American Nurses Association (ANA) has designated 2016 as “Culture of Safety” and the tagline is “Safety 360 Taking Responsibility Together.” Keeping with this focus, the theme for National Nurses Week 2016 (May 6-12) is “Culture of Safety—It Starts with You.”

Overarching Key Messages
- Safety is everyone’s responsibility. There is no hierarchy. Safety requires empowering every voice.
- A culture of safety is one where nurses feel supported, listened to and understood. A culture of safety fosters transparency, accountability and results.
- Nurses foster open conversations about safety issues, such as fatigue, stress, safe patient handling, workplace violence, incivility and bullying.
- Nurses prioritize safe staffing and help connect individual, team and organizational safety goals.
- National Nurses Week celebrates the contributions nurses make every day to make positive changes for patients.
- Nurses ensure the delivery of quality health care to patients, families and society.

- Nurses are recognized by the public for upholding high ethical standards. An annual Gallup survey shows that the public has ranked nursing as the top profession for honesty and ethical standards for 14 years straight.
- Nurses have a critical responsibility to uphold the highest level of quality and standards in their practice, including fostering a safe work environment.
- Nursing leaders ensure resources are available to achieve safety results, providing resources for adequate staffing, equipment and education.
- Nurses use quality measurements to improve patient outcomes.
- The American Nurses Association (ANA) has a long-standing commitment to ensuring the health and wellness of nurses in all settings. ANA supports improving the work life of health care providers: what’s good for nurses is good for patients.

Additional Background and Examples
- It has been 15 years since the Institute of Medicine (IOM) issued the call for a safer health care system in its landmark reports To Err Is Human and Crossing the Quality Chasm.
- To Err Is Human found that between 44,000 and 98,000 hospitalized patients die each year from preventable medical errors. Many nurses were shaken by the report, as “no harm” is at the core of nursing.

The follow-up report, Crossing the Quality Chasm, had a broader focus and suggested a roadmap for reforming the nation’s health care system. Taken together, these two reports have shaped the modern patient safety conversation.

ANA endorsed the National Patient Safety Foundation report which reiterates the importance of establishing and maintaining a culture of safety. The report emphasizes “the wellbeing and safety of the healthcare workforce.” ANA supports the concept that a healthy nurse leads to a healthy community.

Recent studies suggest U.S. patients experience a far greater number of adverse events each year than even suggested by the IOM 15 years ago. A 2013 study published in the Journal of Patient Safety revealed that preventable adverse events accounted for 210,000 to 440,000 deaths of hospital patients every year. There is still work to be done and nurses will play a key role.

Nurses have been instrumental in improving the quality and safety of health care particularly when it comes to hospital-acquired conditions. According to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) these conditions declined 17 percent between 2010 and 2014. There were 2.1 million fewer hospital-acquired conditions. 87,000 saved lives, and $20 billion in savings.

National Nurses Week History

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th. Florence Nightingale’s birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event. As of 1998, May 8 was designated as National Student Nurses Day, to be celebrated annually. And as of 2003, National School Nurse Day is celebrated on the Wednesday within National Nurses Week (May 6-12) each year.

The nursing profession has been supported and promoted by the American Nurses Association (ANA) since 1896. Each of ANA’s state and territorial nurses associations promotes the nursing profession at the state and regional levels. Each conducts celebrations on these dates to recognize the contributions that nurses and nursing make to the community.

The ANA supports and encourages National Nurses Week each year through the state and district nurses associations, other specialty nursing organizations, educational facilities, and independent health care companies and institutions.

A Brief History of National Nurses Week
1953 Dorothy Satterwhite of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare sent a proposal to President Eisenhower to proclaim a “Nurse Day” in October of the following year. The proclamation was never made.
1954 National Nurse Week was observed from October 11 - 16. The year of the observance marked the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale’s mission to Crimea. Representative Frances P. Bolton sponsored the bill for a nurse week. Apparently, a bill for a National Nurse Week was introduced in the 1955 Congress, but no action was taken. Congress discontinued its practice of joint resolutions for national weeks of various kinds.
1971 Again a resolution was presented by the House of Representatives for the President to proclaim “National Registered Nurse Day.” It did not occur.
1974 In January of that year, the International Council of Nurses (ICN) proclaimed that May 12 would be “International Nurse Day.” (May 12 is the birthday of Florence Nightingale.) Since 1965, the ICN has celebrated “International Nurse Day.”
1974 In February of that year, a week was designated by the White House as National Nurse Week, and President Nixon issued a proclamation.
1978 New Jersey Governor Brendan Byrne declared May 6 as “Nurse Day.”

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Posters will be located on the second floor above the Sanctuary

ASNA’S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY WILL BE HELD IN ROOMS 806-808 (Located to the right of the Sanctuary)

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**Excellent Nurse Opportunity**

The Alabama Department of Public Health is now hiring for the position of:

**Licensure and Certification Surveyor – classification number 40726, nurse option.** This involves professional work surveying health care providers to determine compliance with state and federal regulations. To qualify you must have a Bachelor Degree in Nursing and two years of direct patient care nursing experience OR an Associate degree in Nursing or diploma in Nursing and five years of direct patient care nursing experience.

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If you have questions please contact Diane Mann at (334) 206-5078 or email diane.mann@adph.state.al.us.

The Alabama Department of Public Health is an Equal Opportunity Employer
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Explore new ways to teach familiar and unfamiliar content

CLINICAL 1A – Clean Eating on a Frugal Budget – Teaching the Underserved Population with Type 2 Diabetes
Dr. Anita H. King
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Discuss Type 2 diabetes with nutritional recommendations.
2. Identify at least 5 barriers of proper nutrition in the underserved populations with Type 2 diabetes.
3. Outline teaching examples with the acronym FOOD in the patient education process.

CLINICAL 2A – Promoting Breastfeeding in the Community: Tiger Babies Breastfeeding Support Tent
Laurie Harris, MSN, RN
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Confirm the importance of educating the community on the importance of breastfeeding and supporting breastfeeding mothers.
2. Justify the purpose of the Tiger Babies Breastfeeding Support Tent and it’s benefits for the community.

CLINICAL 3A – Meeting Alabama’s Behavioral Healthcare Needs in the 21st Century
Drs. Beverly J. Myers & Sandra J. Jemison
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Discuss Alabama’s future behavioral healthcare needs.
2. Relate the important role community-based internships play in meeting Alabama’s future behavioral healthcare needs.

ETHICS/VALUE A – Bridging the Gap: Understanding the Healthcare Needs of the LGBT Community
Amy Morris, MPA, BSN, RN-BC
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Review the terminology associated with the LGBT community.
2. Describe 1 or 2 common health disparities listed in HealthyPeople 2020.
3. List 2 efforts to improve the health of the LGBT community as part of HealthyPeople 2020

ADMINISTRATION A – Costly Distractions
Kendal Snider, BSN, RN, LSSGB & Karla Williamson, BSN, CCRN, LSSGB
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Relate the potential mindset of the frontline nursing staff during the bedside nurse to nurse shift report.
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES B – Let’s Bridge the Gap: Integrating HIV Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Content and Knowledge in Clinical Setting
Dr. Row Chee Ny & Jennifer Palmer, MSN, RN
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Examine the concept of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in HIV prevention.
2. Incorporate PrEP knowledge including dosing strategies, need for safety monitoring, and advanced counseling required for PrEP into nursing practice.

ADMINISTRATION C – Nursing Ratios: A Conversation Regarding the Evidence
Dr. Anita Smith
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Present timeline and evidence for mandated staffing ratios found in peer reviewed journals.
2. Summarize the outcomes and evidence for nursing staffing ratios.
3. Present a proposed conceptual model that permits measurement of patient outcomes in hospital setting.

ACADEMIA C – Brainiac Boot Camp: Nursing Students Engaging with Children in a Summer Reading Program
Ann W Lambert, RN, MSN, CRNP & Nursing Student Alison Gracy
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Identify innovations for delivering nursing care to children enrolled in a summer reading program.
2. Develop an appreciation for different methods used to teach elementary age children about their bodies.
3. Sate the benefits of nursing students participating in outreach activities.

CLINICAL IC – Southern African American Women’s Perceptions of Coronary Artery Disease After a Myocardial Infarction
Dr. Lorentia Jones
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Relate the current state of heart disease in women.
2. Describe current study results of women lifestyle changes after experiencing a Myocardial infarction.

CLINICAL 2C – Implementing a Transition to Adult Care Program at Children’s of Alabama
Sheila Benton, RN, CDE & Rebecca Earman, RN, CDE
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Define transition of care.
2. State the rationale for implementing a transition of care program.
3. List at least three (3) challenges describing how each challenge can impact patient outcome.

CLINICAL 3C – Effects of Exercise on Dementia
Gleno Morrisette, BSN, RN
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Identify the term dementia.
2. Describe effects of exercise on dementia.
3. Incorporate the positive correlations presented in this review about exercise and dementia with future research initiated by advanced practice nurses.

ETHICS/VALUE C – Nurses Role on Preventing Health Effects Related to Climate Change
Dr. Azita Amir
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Generalize how climate change can affect the communities.
2. Formulate the health effect of climate change.
3. Identify the role of nurses in reducing the health effects of climate change using the Change Theory of Nursing.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES C – The Milieu of Meningitis: Vaccinating for Prevention
Dr. Cam A. Hamilton
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Develop an understanding of the types of meningitis and those most at risk.
2. Identify the types of vaccines available for meningitis and the CDC’s vaccination recommendations.
3. Explore challenges and barriers in the control and prevention of meningitis.

ADMINISTRATION C – Pearls of Wisdom: Joint Commission Readiness Tips 2016
Jennifer Mikalajunas, MSN, RN, CNRN, LSSGB & Glenda Black, BSN, RN
At the conclusion of the presentation the participant should be able to:
1. Discuss Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goals and how they are reviewed.
2. Identify elements in Environment of Care, Life Safety and Emergency Management.
3. Demonstrate preparedness for Joint Commission Accreditation Survey.

Contact Hours:
ANCC = 1.0 CH/session – 7.0 CH Possible (includes posters)
ABN = 1.2 CH/session – 8.4 CH Possible (includes posters)

FACES ’16 continued on page 10
Elizabeth A. Morris Clinical Education Sessions - FACES ‘16 – Registration Form

Print Name: ____________________________ ABN License Number: __________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
City __________________ State _______ ZIP __________________________
Credentials: __________________________ Day Phone: __________________________

*Email: __________________________________________

*Confirmations by Email Only

ASNA is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation

Alabama Board of Nursing (ABNP002) expires March 30, 2017.

Refund/Substitutions:
If cancellation is received in writing prior to April 2, 2016, a refund minus a $20 processing fee will be given. After April 2, 2016, no refund will be given. We reserve the right to cancel the program if necessary. A full refund will be made in this event. A $30 return check fee will be charged for all returned checks/payments.

Make check payable to:
Alabama State Nurses Association

Mail Registration form and fee to:
ASNA ~ 360 N. Hall St. ~ Montgomery, AL 36104
Fax Registration form to:
334-262-8578
Online registration open until 11:59 PM, April 2, 2016 at www.alabamanurses.org

If unable to register prior to 11:59 PM, April 2, 2016, you may register at door. Please note that you will be charged a $10 late fee.

*Optional Lunch is available only until April 2, 2016 – it is not available after April 2, 2016 OR for at door registrations

Credit Card #: __________________________ Exp. Date: ___________ CVV# __________
Signature: __________________________________________

Fees if received by April 2, 2016:
( ) $49 ASNA Member
( ) $69 Non member
( ) $20 Student/Student Presenter
( ) $45 Presenter
( ) $35 Optional Lunch
( ) $0 Presenter Optional Lunch

Amount Enclosed ______________

Concurrent Session Choices – Circle Only 1 Class for Each Time Frame:

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<th>Class 3</th>
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<td>AANS A</td>
<td>AANS B</td>
<td>AANS C</td>
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<td>CLINICAL 1C</td>
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<td>ETHICS/VALUE A</td>
<td>ADMINISTRATION A</td>
<td>ADMINISTRATION B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASNA has reserved a room block with the Drury Inn & Suites on 1124 Eastern Blvd, Montgomery, AL 36117. $99.99 + tax/ 2 Queen, non-smoking. Group #2270539. Call 800-325-0720 to make reservations.

Poster exhibits available for viewing from 9:00 AM – 3:40 PM

Your online resource for nursing jobs, research, and events.
Find your dream job today!
LEGISLATIVE BASICS

Letter Writing
1. Be brief, but informative.
2. Include only one topic per letter.
3. State your reason for letter in first paragraph.
4. Be specific and include key information.
5. If you want them to co-sponsor, say so.
6. Sign your name with RN or LPN.
7. Close with a thank you.
8. May be typed or hand written.

ASNA Legislative Guide

Additional Ways to Influence
1. Post Cards:
   Legislators need to receive many, and preferably handwritten, to make a difference.
2. Petitions:
   Only if you have thousands of names.
3. Telephone Calls:
   Be brief and have your facts together. The message will probably be placed on an answering machine or be taken by a secretary.
   If you want the legislator to return your call, say so; otherwise they will not.
4. Testifying at legislative Hearings:
   ASNA will brief you individually.
5. ALISON:
   A Citizen’s Guide to ALISON (The Alabama Legislature.)

Legislative DON’Ts
- Don’t threaten if they do not vote with you.
- Don’t hold a grudge if they vote with the other side.
- Don’t go unprepared.

Communication Tips
Personal Visit
1. Call ahead for an appointment (when possible).
2. Prepare in advance; know background of the legislator, such as usual voting history, groups they support, occupation, committee membership, when they will be due for reconsideration, etc. Also, know history of the legislation – who supports it and who does not; is this ASNA’s first attempt with this legislation, etc.
3. Be on time.
4. If going with a group, select one person to speak on behalf of the group. Limit group to no more than 5 individuals (otherwise the legislator will make a speech and not listen to you!).
5. When you meet with the legislator, introduce yourself as a nurse, shake their hand firmly and, if from their district mention this and state why you are there. Be sure to know bill numbers.
6. Ask the legislator their position on the bill. If they are in favor, ask them to co-sponsor (if they have not already agreed).
7. Provide additional clarification about the bill if needed.
8. Offer to be a resource to them about nursing health care, or other issues you feel deeply about.
9. Be courteous no matter how they react.
10. Be succinct – not too technical – and leave a fact sheet about the bill with the legislator.
11. After the visit, follow up with a thank you note.
12. NOTE: If the legislator is not expecting you and is not in their office, leave a brief note stating that you were there, sorry to have missed them, and a request to support your issue.

Work for one of the region’s leading healthcare organizations. We’re looking for smart, motivated people to help us offer the highest quality care to Central Alabama.

- Director of Telemetry and Progressive Care Unit – BSN required Master’s preferred. 5 years clinical experience in Critical Care, Progressive Care or Telemetry
- Critical Care and ER – $10,000 Sign On Bonus for FT RN’s with 2 years comparable experience
- $5000 Sign On Bonus for experienced med/surg, ortho/neuro and PCU-Cardiac FT RN positions

For additional information and to apply on-line, go to: www.wiregrassmedicalcenter.org
Located in Geneva, AL
(800) 291.9354
Please visit www.jackson.org for all open positions.
THE ASNA LOBBYING PROGRAM

An aggressive lobbying program is at the heart of the Alabama State Nurses Association blueprint for success. And the stronger the grassroots influence in that effort, the more effective the lobby program will be.

TIPS FOR LOBBYING YOUR LEGISLATOR

1. Stay informed. Keep up to date on legislation ASNA proposes or supports, as well as bills ASNA opposes. Read The Alabama Nurse and other publications. Call ASNA if you have questions. When you speak with a legislator, be prepared because he/she will readily sense whether you’ve done your homework.

2. Know which legislators represent the district where you live. The Legislature has 105 members – 55 in the Senate and 50 in the House. To find your legislators, go to www.legislature.state.al.us and enter your zip code to locate your House and Senate member. If you have a question, you may call Senate information at (334) 242-7800 or House information at (334) 242-7600.

3. Make the contact. Whenever you’re familiar with the ASNA legislative program and have learned how to get in touch with your legislator, proceed with your lobbying effort. Personal contact is much preferred over correspondence or email, and face-to-face is better than telephone. But make the contact in the way your schedule and circumstances allow.

By all means be courteous, because rude or impolite behavior might turn a legislator off and place ASNA’s legislation in jeopardy. But make certain that you get your point across. Don’t be timid; there’s no need to be intimidated because the legislator works for you and wants your input as badly as you want to provide it. Ask for his/her support and tell your legislator how rewarding it is to be a part of the nursing profession and how important your profession is to society. Never neglect an opportunity to praise the medical profession.

4. Follow up. The goal is to develop an on-going relationship of trust with your legislator. For example, if he/she is interested in matters you are interested in, make sure he/she receives your constituent care package periodically, perhaps in the mail and perhaps in person. If you are a constituent in a district where he/she is elected, make sure he/she receives periodic visits from you and your group, perhaps in the mail or by phone or even in person. Offer help, whether providing research or lobbying other legislators. Contact your legislator on medical matters periodically to let him/her know your interest, whether in support or in opposition to particular legislation. And above all, act professionally, beginning with the first contact.

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

Legislation often starts with an idea from a constituent. A nurse may be upset that a nursing home patient is not receiving proper medications, due to funding shortfalls. A teacher may complain that too much paperwork leaves too little time for instruction. A citizen may be concerned about potholes in roads or too few troopers patrolling rural highways.

Legislation also arises from governmental sources. The Governor, within the first few days of the annual session, sends the Legislature budgets for operating the state government agencies and schools and colleges. State agencies propose laws which allow them to better administer their programs.

Like most states, Alabama utilized a bicameral system. The Legislature has a House and a Senate and legislation must pass through each body to become law.

The Senate, often referred to as the “Upper Chamber,” has 35 members elected from districts and is presided over by the Lieutenant Governor. Elected statewide. The House has 105 members elected from districts and the speaker of the House is chosen from among those 105 members.

To be introduced, a bill must have a sponsor – any one of the 140 members. Normally, a bill will have a sponsor in each chamber.

After introduction, a bill is assigned to a committee. Each house has about 20 committees which handle legislation of a particular type. Health committees in each chamber, for instance, deal with legislation related to medical matters.

If given a favorable report by a committee, the full body in the chamber in whose committee the bill was sent to hear the bill and then vote on it. Approval by one house sends it to the other, where the bill is again assigned to a committee. A favorable report means the legislation is reported to the floor of the second chamber. If passed there, the bill is sent to the Governor for his/her signature to become law.

Literally hundreds of bills are introduced each year, so many pieces of legislation worthy of enactment never are taken up. The Rules Committee sets the order of debate in each house.

By design, the legislative process is lengthy, cumbersome and deliberative. Wholesome debate on important legislation is one of Alabama’s strengths. In the minds of voters, it is not the number of laws introduced but the number enacted that is important. Even though the deliberative process can be frustrating, it can be exiting and rewarding too. So contact your legislator and get started. And contact the Alabama State Nurses Association and ask how you can become active in the ASNA lobbying effort.

PAC – these initials stand for Political Action Committee.

Political Action Committee Definition – a committee formed by business, labor, or other special-interest groups to raise money and make contributions to the campaigns of political candidates whom they support.


N-STAT is the power and strength behind ANA’s (American Nurses Association) lobbyists on Capitol Hill. To join you must pay a fee. ANA’s Nurses Strategic Action Team (N-STAT) makes it easy for nurses to unite with colleagues across the nation and let lawmakers know how you feel by keeping you up to speed on key bills as they move through Congress an letting you know when your emails, phone calls and letters will make the most impact.

References
www.nursingworld.org Click on Nursing Issues/Programs (left side of page) Click on Government Affairs – this will link you to N-STAT info. This will also allow you to find your members of Congress (by entering your 9 digit zip code) and see how they voted on a bill. http://thomas.loc.gov: Will get you into the Library of Congress and you can navigate easily through the quick links on the main page or by category.

www.alabamanurses.org is an easy reference to get to nursingworld.org

Come visit ABN’s relaunched website, www.abn.alabama.gov, and check out the brand-new Alabama Nursing Resource Center, Alabama’s go-to Resource for all things nursing:

- Updated and new Board-provided CE course offerings.
- Access to information on Nursing in Alabama, the US, and around the world.
- High-level nursing research and new opportunities for Nursing Graduate students.
- A public information portal to promote and improve knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of the nursing profession.
- Information on nursing specialty and professional organizations nationwide.
Anatomy of a Good Constituent Letter

Jane Doe, RN
123 Healthcare Lane
Anytown, AL 30000
(Day) 205-123-4567
(Evening) 205-234-5678
jane.doe@internetking.net

February 1, 2008

The Honorable Sen A tor
Alabama Senate
Alabama State House
Montgomery, AL 36130

Re: SB xxx – Support

Dear Senator A tor:

I am writing in support of SB xxx introduced by Senator __________ which seeks to ___________________________.

I have been a nurse for ____ years. My experience has shown ___________________________.

Recent data from XYZ State Agency indicates an increase in ______ state-wide of over _____%. In your district, more than ______ persons are faced with the problem of ______ each day.

SB xxx would solve this problem in the following ways: ___________________________.

The problem of ___________________________ will not be solved without appropriate legislative action. IF I can provide additional information to you on this critical issue please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

I would very much appreciate your response on this.

Sincerely,

Jane Doe, RN

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Vaughan Regional Medical Center is seeking to hire Registered Nurses on all shifts and in various departments. New Graduate Nurses are welcome to apply! Temporary RN Licensure is accepted for new graduates and they are provided assistance in passing the NCLEX exam.

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Email Contact: Dionne.Williams@lpnt.net or Christina.Smith@lpnt.net

Vaughan Regional Medical Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NURSE FACULTY
One full-time tenure track Adult Health faculty position, must have M.S. and an earned doctorate in nursing or related field. Requires teaching experience in courses throughout a graduate and undergraduate curriculum, and online teaching. Also seeking part-time clinical faculty. Please send a cover letter and curriculum vitae (to include two references that may be contacted) electronically to:
Dr. Terran Mathers tmathers@shc.edu
For additional employment information visit:
http://www.shc.edu/employment

Wallace Community College
2016 Continuing Ed Courses (Call 334-556-2205 to register)

Train the Trainer $399.00
May 10-11
August 16-17
November 8-9

All classes Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM.
• Location: Wallace CEWD Bldg. (5655 Montgomery Hwy)
• CEUs: 1.2 • Course limited to 12 nurses.

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Wallace Community College
Dothan, AL

2016 Continuing Ed Courses (Call 334-556-2205 to register)

Train the Trainer $399.00
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August 16-17
November 8-9

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• Location: Wallace CEWD Bldg. (5655 Montgomery Hwy)
• CEUs: 1.2 • Course limited to 12 nurses.

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Improve your promotion chances in 4 courses
Earn the skills to help you advance in 8 months

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HQs Certificate: Totally online. Totally you.
Get Involved

Get involved and enhance your nursing career! Leadership and service opportunities exist at both the district and state levels including:

- Serving on committees and task forces
- Becoming an elected officer
- Utilizing your talent and expertise as a mentor
- Becoming the eyes and ears of ASNA and ANA as a “watchdog” for issues affecting nursing in Alabama

Taking advantage of these opportunities will not only aid you personally through networking opportunities and gaining recognition, but you will also affect your entire career by helping progress the state of the nursing profession in Alabama.

Opportunities where you can make a difference:

Legislative
Legislation becomes law. Laws become policy. Policy impacts your practice. This committee is very active during the Alabama legislative session. They help develop the ASNA legislative agenda, share legislative issues with the district level, and are citizen lobbyists (as desired) during the legislative session.

Nominating Committee
This is an elected position that is responsible for developing the annual ballot. The committee usually meets early summer.

Awards Committee
Committee members are elected and select ASNA awards recipients based on predetermined criteria. The committee plans the awards ceremony, which is one of the highlights of the ASNA Annual Convention.

Finance Committee
The Finance Committee is chaired by the ASNA Treasurer with a member from each district. Under normal circumstances, the district representative is the local treasurer.

An-PAC
This is the political action committee of ASNA. Membership is open to anyone interested in the political process. The committee evaluates and suggests candidates who are advocates for better healthcare.

Continuing Education
There are two committees: one that approves and one that develops educational activities. Anyone may participate on these committees (must have BSN or higher degree to approve activities). These very active and involved committees have a direct impact on promoting excellence in nursing.

Ethics and Human Rights
Gallup ranked nurses as the most trusted profession for 14 straight years. This committee is open to everyone who is passionate about ethics and how it impacts nursing and patient care.

Governance
Chaired by the ASNA Secretary, the focus here is reviewing and updating bylaws and evaluation resolutions that are presented at the annual meeting. Membership is open to anyone.

Membership
Chaired by the ASNA Vice President—and including all district VPs—participation is open to anyone with a desire to engage and recruit new members.

Environmental and Safety Task Force
Currently the task force works in conjunction with the Ethics and Human Rights Committee as their focuses are overlapping. The task force is ideal for anyone concerned about nurses’ health, safety, and environment.

Commission on Professional Issues (COPI)
Members are elected; however, anyone may participate as consultants. COPI’s focus is any issue impacting the nursing profession. Each year the committee selects a new focus.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, contact us at member@asa
AlabamaNurses.org to get started in making a difference in Alabama nursing.

Prepare to Care.
Be a Nurse.

Herzing University in Birmingham offers the following programs:
- LPN - On campus - 12 months - NCLEX-PN exam prep
- LPN to RN Mobility - On campus - 12 months - NCLEX-RN exam prep
- RN to BSN Bridge - Online - Accredited by CAHIM**
- MSN - Online - Family Nurse Practitioner - Nursing Education - Nursing Management - Accredited by CNNE**

Herzing University offers one-on-one attention in an interactive nursing lab. Once accepted and enrolled, you are a nursing student from day one.
Just a few of the reasons ASNA is the right choice for you:

- Up to 30% off ANCC exams
- Free or discounted CE
- Free 1 hour visit with ASNA's Attorney for any need
- Enhance your resume' by belonging to your Professional Association
- 77% of ASNA dues are tax deductible

District Meeting Notices

Macon County Nurses Society
1st Tuesday of each month
Basil O’Conner Hall, Tuskegee University
12:30 p.m.
Contact Maggie Antoine at maggieantoine@charter.net

Mobile County Nurses Society
Mobile County Nurses’ Society meeting is the third Thursday of each month 5:30 P.M. @ Winzell’s Oyster House, 605 Dauphin Street, Mobile, AL, 36602. Contact Voncie Stallworth at VONCEAL@MSN.COM or 251-456-7536

ASNA District 1
Meets on the 2nd Thursday of even months (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec), at 6:15 PM at Parkway Medical in Decatur, AL. Please contact your district president, Sarah Wilkinson at swilkinsonrn@yahoo.com to be added to the notification list.

ASNA District 2
Meets the first Friday of the month from 12 – 1 pm for “Lunch & Learn”
Contact your district president, Julie Savage Jones at juliesavagejones@yahoo.com for location.

ASNA District 3
The second Thursday of odd months (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov), at 5:30PM at Jim N Nick’s located at 220 Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL, 35209. Contact your district president, Dr. Wanda Spillers at whspillers@yahoo.com for more information about your district.

ASNA District 4
No meeting information is available at this time – your district president will contact you via email regarding meeting times and locations.
Contact your district president, Erica Elkins Little, ericaelkinttt@gmail.com

ASNA District 5
No meeting information is available at this time – your district president will contact you via email regarding meeting times and locations.
Contact your district president, Jan Wynn at jmwynn@samc.org for more information about your district.

*Dates and locations may change, please watch for emails and web announcements.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please Circle  New Application Renewal

ANA ID# ____________ Today’s Date: ____________

Over 90% of our members are joint members of ASNA and ANA. Joint membership greatly expands what you receive in benefits and your influence as a nurse advocate. Some members prefer state only membership and that is available as an option as well.

Name: ______________________________________________ Credentials: ________________________________

Home Address: __________________________________ Nursing License Number: _______________________

City/State/Zip: _______________________________ Employer: _______________________________________

Preferred Phone: _______________________________ Employer Address: _______________________________

Email: ___________________________________________ (Please circle) Preferred Contact Home Work Email

Recruited By: ________________________________________

How Did You Hear About ASNA/ANA? __________________________________________________________

Dual ASNA/ANA Membership Options State Only Options

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Monthly Bank Draft/Credit/Debit Card Authorization:

Read and sign the authorization below. Enclose a check made payable to ASNA for the first month’s dues (see rates listed above). This amount will be deducted from your checking/credit card account each month.

By signing the form below, I am authorizing ASNA/ANA to withdraw annual/monthly dues from the financial institution I have designated. If paying by automatic bank draft, I have enclosed a check for the first month’s payment. Bank drafts will occur on or after the 15th day of the month. Credit Cards will be charged on or after the 1st of the month.

Authorized Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Card Number: __________________________________ Exp. Date: ____________________________

Payments to ASNA/ANA are not deductible as charitable contributions; however 70% of your dues are tax deductible as a professional organization for Federal Income Tax Purposes.

Please return this completed application with your payment to ASNA, 360 North Hall St., Montgomery, AL 36104 or Fax to 334-352-8794.

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HONORING OUR CAREGIVERS

Every day, thousands of Alabamians perform a great labor of love: caring for an older parent or loved one. These caregivers provide an invaluable resource, helping seniors stay at home — where they want to be. That’s why AARP Alabama is committed to supporting caregivers and their loved ones. Together, we’re helping to make living at home and staying in their communities a reality for Alabama’s seniors.

Learn more about our efforts at aarp.org/caregiving.

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Paid for by AARP