PK SCHEERLE  PK’s journey in nursing began when she graduated from Castleton University School of Nursing in Vermont, where she served as president of her class. Upon graduating, she left the Northeast and stopped in New Orleans, Louisiana to see her birthplace, Charity Hospital. She never left. PK began her career in 1980 at Staff Builders, a nurse-staffing agency. She saw first hand the need to staff not just ‘quantity’ but ‘quality.’ In 1982, just 2 years out of nursing school, PK founded her own company American Nursing Services, a supplemental nurse staffing agency and Medicare Certified home health company that emphasized quality.

SANDRA CHAISSON BROWN  Dr. Sandra Brown’s journey in nursing began when she obtained her BSN from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, School of Nursing in Lafayette. She later obtained a Master of Nursing degree in Adult Health and Illness, Cardiovascular Nursing, in 1985 from Louisiana State University Medical Center (LSUMC) in New Orleans. Having always aspired to obtain a terminal degree in nursing, she received a Doctor of Nursing Science degree in 1994 from LSUMC where she was the first minority to graduate with a Doctorate in Nursing Science from this institution. Since her initial employment

TERRIE STERLING  Terrie Sterling’s successful career began over three decades ago when she received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1985 from Northeast Louisiana University in Monroe, Louisiana. Subsequent to that, she received her Masters of Business Administration through the MBA program at LSU. Understanding that to lead the state’s largest Acute Care Hospital as the Chief Nursing Officer and support her goal of lifelong learning, Ms. Sterling pursued an additional graduate degree at Loyola University in New Orleans where she received a Masters of Nursing Science in 2006. Her drive and passion for serving those most in need led her to...
nursing services. Under her direction, the company grew from five employees to 2,400 locations in nine states. A RN with a clinical background in pediatric intensive care, she is a self-made entrepreneur who saw a need in the healthcare to keep experienced and talented clinicians at the bedside.

PK currently serves as CEO and Chairman of the Board of Gifted Healthcare. Under PK’s leadership Gifted Healthcare has grown dramatically, operating through regional offices in Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma and nationally through its travel nurse division. As an experienced CEO, PK has repeatedly created winning teams adding value and innovation to health care delivery. Her contributions extend the health care continuum from acute care to the home. Her corporations have provided experienced critical care nurse staffing in areas of need, particularly rural hospital services, disease management, case management, nurse navigators and private duty care to countless citizens.

A graduate of the Harvard Business School Executive Program, PK has distinguished herself in both the business and nursing community. She is a nationally recognized Program, PK has distinguished herself in both the business to countless citizens.

Perhaps her most enduring and enduring accomplishment is through the Great 100 celebrations that started in New Orleans and has grown to Texas, North Carolina and Oklahoma directly through her efforts and to several other states through her sharing of the model. This program has touched the lives of thousands of nurses and their families over the years. The nurses who are recognized through these events are truly honored to be selected and often inspired and encouraged to further greatness in their nursing journey. In addition, PK founded the Great 100 Foundation. The funds raised through Great 100 events are used not only to honor the Nurses but also to support nursing advocacy, nursing scholarships, research for the betterment of lives, publication of nursing discoveries and the implementation of those discoveries.

Published by: Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, Inc.
While almost everyone agrees that giving more working Louisianans health care coverage is a good thing, I still hear concerns that, with so many new Medicaid enrollees, we will not have enough doctors, nurses and hospital beds to care for the hundreds of thousands of new health care consumers throughout Louisiana.

The reality is that these patients won’t be new at all. Those lacking insurance today already seek and receive care, only they seek it after their ailments and injuries have progressed to the point at which they are unbearable. Then, often visiting emergency departments rather than primary or urgent care clinics, they receive costly, reactive care. Besides being significantly more expensive, seeking care this way provides the worst chances at lasting recovery and long-term health. It also prevents patients from establishing relationships with primary care providers, which are essential for successful long-term health management.

By expanding Medicaid, we can place these individuals in coverage through Bayou Health, granting them access to both case management and preventative medicine in a primary care setting.

Louisiana’s Bayou Health plan has a proven history of increasing access to primary care for Medicaid enrollees and building expanded provider networks from medical practitioners and facilities that are already here, ready and waiting. For example, Bayou Health has already increased the number of primary care physicians available to current Medicaid enrollees by 68 percent. Other successes include increasing the number of current enrollees who receive primary and preventive care, including both nearly doubling access to primary care for Medicaid children and adolescents and increasing adult access to primary care from 78 percent to 82 percent.

One example of how Bayou Health accomplished these improvements is found in its use of value-based contracts. With such contracts, providers are rewarded for producing better outcomes by the private managed care organizations, which have a vested interest in keeping their members as healthy as possible over the course of their lifetimes. In the past six months alone, $3.3 million in performance payments have been disbursed by the various managed care organizations under Bayou Health.

Yes, expansion will mean redesigning our care delivery system, and everyone in the health care community knows that it will require significant work. However, in my own experience as a doctor, I have seen firsthand the consequences that come when patients in desperate need are unable to afford care and the health system of Louisiana fails to provide it to them. These firsthand experiences on the front line of caring for the uninsured are perhaps the strongest reason why I’m personally committed to making Louisiana’s health programs work more effectively and efficiently for everyone, especially the hard-working families that will be newly eligible for Medicaid coverage when expansion takes effect July 1, 2016.

We are just beginning the journey to help all Louisianans live healthy, productive lives. I hope each of you joins me in working toward successful expansion in our state, not just for our friends, families and neighbors, but also for our children and the generations to come after them.
The Ochsner Health System Preceptor Forum Teaches Nurses How to Manage Stress and Recognize Signs of Stress and Burnout

Maria Nix, MSN, RN, Ochsner Health System

Slidell, Louisiana. According to the American Nurses Association 2011 Health and Safety Survey, the acute and chronic effects of stress and overwork remain a top concern of nurses at work. On March 17, 2016, twenty-eight nurse preceptors met for Ochsner’s Nurse Preceptor Forum at Ochsner’s Northshore Campus for an interactive lecture on stress management and burnout by Ricki Linarello, ACNP-BC, a nurse practitioner in health risk assessment and urgent care at Ochsner Health System. At the forum sponsored by Ochsner Health System’s System Nursing Professional Development Department and coordinated by RN Clinical Educator, Cleteal Sutton-Moore, participants received stress kits and practiced stress management techniques, including art therapy, music therapy, and sand sculpting.

Background of the Preceptor Forum Program

The Preceptor Forum is a monthly nursing education event offered to Ochsner nurse preceptors who have attended the Ochsner Preceptor Academy, a structured nursing professional development program that prepares staff nurses to serve as nurse preceptors for new employees. “Through consistent training of preceptors, we can provide more consistent orientation for new nurses, impact job retention of new nurses, and ultimately, provide more consistent care to patients,” says Stuart Redfearn, MSN, RN, nurse clinical educator.

The Preceptor Forum provides a time and place for nurse preceptors to receive updated education. Sutton-Moore delivers fresh content designed to keep nurses informed and engaged. Recognizing the physical, emotional, and mental demands of nursing, Sutton-Moore says “The topic of stress management and burnout was chosen to reduce on-the-job stress, provide nurses with positive ways to relieve stress, and to alert nurses to the signs of stress that they may not be aware of.”

Stress Management: What Participants Learned

Stress is the body’s natural response to a demand. Stress is necessary for progress and can lead to positive change and growth; however, unmanaged stress leads to negative health consequences. Linarello shared signs of chronic stress, some of which include overreaction to annoyances, difficulty concentrating, social withdrawal, anxiety, and insomnia. She described burnout as a syndrome marked by long-term emotional exhaustion and loss of interest in work. Preceptor Forum participants completed the Epstein Stress Management Inventory to assess their stress management competency in 4 specific areas: managing or reducing sources of stress, practicing relaxation techniques, managing thoughts, and planning and analyzing to manage stress. Through self-assessment, nurses found that a low score in a specific area highlighted an opportunity to strengthen stress management skills in that area.

Linarello guided the group in healthy stress reduction techniques and described the physiological benefits of each technique. She shared that art therapy, coloring or doodling, calms the amygdala, the part of the brain that controls our fight or flight response, and that music therapy can have an effect on emotions as well as the body.

At the conclusion of the Preceptor Forum, Linarello reminded the group, “We often go days, weeks, or months without engaging in the simple things that truly relax us and allow us to manage stress.” She encourages nurses to create a “bliss list” of at least three simple activities that help them relax, to post the list, and to commit to engaging in the activities daily.

Cloteal Sutton-Moore, Program Coordinator

Pamela Pontoppidan, BSN, RN, CWS, wound care nurse navigator, a program participant, shared, “I think all too often we become so focused on caring for others, be it patients, family, or friends, we forget about caring for ourselves, even though we preach self-care. This was a great reminder that if we don’t take time for ourselves we won’t be able to care for others.”

Sutton-Moore plans to duplicate the event at additional Ochsner campuses and open the program to non-Ochsner nurses. To find current and future continuing nursing education (CNE) opportunities, please visit Ochsner’s CNE website at www.ochsner.org/cne. For more information on how to manage stress, visit http://www.cdc.gov/features/handlestress/.

References:

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When I accepted the position as a house manager 9 months ago, I had no idea the vastness and unpredictability of the role. Staffing is one of the many roles as a house manager. We staff units every shift and make sure the nurse to patient ratios are accurate and safe for our patients. As a house manager we are also responsible for bed management and placement of patients throughout the hospital. We respond to every code within the hospital and are expected to be in the know of everything that goes on in the hospital 24/7. If issues arise, we are the first to respond. I was hesitant to leave the bedside and afraid that I would lose the patient/nurse interaction that is so important to me. But as a house manager, I feel that I have even more of a direct role and still immensely impact our patients. Challenging times in this role are when issues arise within the hospital that have never been presented before. Decisions need to be made quickly so thinking in a crunch is a must. I am blessed to have supportive coworkers that will assist in problem solving which makes these times easier. We have opportunities daily as house managers to make a difference in both our staff and patients. Being able to help staff meet our requests of our patients and better their stay is truly rewarding.

Bridget McFerrin, RN, BSN, PCCN
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center

**What is it Like to be a House Manager?**

I always say that being a house manager is like being the mayor of a city. The responsibilities are endless and you never know what patient or family related issues you will address during your shift. We do anything from making sandwiches in the cafeteria at 2am for patients to leading a Code Blue until a physician arrives. House managers wear many hats which is why I love it. My most challenging moment in this role came in the months following Hurricane Katrina. Baton Rouge's population increased significantly during that time and several hospitals in New Orleans had closed so we accepted many patients from the New Orleans area. It was a very busy time for the hospital during those months. An opportunity in this role that really makes me feel good about my job is when I have the chance to teach and guide new staff. When I was a new nurse at OLOL, my mentor was a house manager so I love that I am now filling that mentor role.

Shawn Simmons, RN, MSN
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center

It is amazing all of the aspects of this role. It ranges from buying diapers to doing CPR in the plaza parking lot on a visitor until EMS shows up - and everything in between. My favorite and yet most stressful part of this job is that everyone looks to the House Manager for an answer. I enjoy problem solving and this job requires that I constantly sort through issues keeping positive patient outcomes at the core of the decision making process. We are always teaching too. Recently, the nurses on the floor were talking about their uneasiness about being involved in a code. My advice to the staff was simple: “Stay calm because you will think better. Remember, you know how to do this.” We are a great team and we support each other in our care delivery.

Corey Summers, RN
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center

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Tuesday, February 23, 2016 seemed like any other day in late winter in South Louisiana despite the multitude of emergency response alerts for severe weather system and the school dismissals Parish wide. The weather that morning did not seem to be worrisome and plenty of skeptics questioning the level of response. Around 1:30 PM however, the skyline began to change along with the fierceness of wind and rain. Anticipation continued to grow throughout the day with each new alert. Would our emergency room skills be called into action to support an influx of injured patients? Would our disaster preparation and training be needed due to the storms impact? With anticipation of readiness, the focus among the Emergency Department team members remained the priority task of providing medical attention to the patients currently under our care, a task that required many to set aside their concerns for loved ones potentially in harm’s way due to this unusual weather event.

At 3:10 PM we were notified of a band of thunderstorms capable of producing a tornado moving into our area. At 3:29 PM confirmation was received, the band of thunderstorms had weakened and the tornado warning was canceled for our area. The tornado watch would remain into effect, however, until 5:00 PM for Southeast Louisiana. There was a sense that this could possibly be an “All Clear” but we remained vigilant and kept our emergency preparedness as a priority within the emergency department.

Then in an instant things began to change, at 3:50 PM, St. Elizabeth Hospital (STEH ED) received notification from the Louisiana Emergency Response Network [LERN] of a confirmed tornado touchdown in the Convent Area in St James Parish with multiple injuries reported including children. The ED team went into action and at 3:53 PM follow-up notification confirmed a large scale emergency response was mobilized to the area. At 3:10 PM we were notified of a band of thunderstorms capable of producing a tornado moving into our area. At 3:29 PM confirmation was received, the band of thunderstorms had weakened and the tornado warning was canceled for our area. The tornado watch would remain into effect, however, until 5:00 PM for Southeast Louisiana. There was a sense that this could possibly be an “All Clear” but we remained vigilant and kept our emergency preparedness as a priority within the emergency department.

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STEH received 15 of the Tornadoes victims and our Sister Hospital, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center (OLOLRMC) received 19. We assessed wounds, treated injuries, but most importantly we truly cared for the people. Nurses were asked by patients to speak with their loved ones who were far away, providing updates and offering reassurance to them that their loved one here in the hospital were not alone, we were here with them. We were challenged that evening to put all of our planning, our preparation, and our skills to the test and we rose to the challenge while continuing to provide ongoing emergency support to our community’s needs.

Many thanks to the Gonzales Police Officers who arrived to offer support. Their mere presence offered security and comfort for the victims arriving from the scene. They became the “eyes up” within the department providing a sense of security and calm in the midst of the controlled chaos within the department, allowing the Health Care team to be “eyes down” providing patient care. In addition to partnering with us in support of the emergency response, they extended beyond what was ever expected, becoming caretakers for the caregivers. They were truly our heroes that evening.

Throughout the night patient care continued as some required surgical intervention while others needed ongoing monitoring, and others required specialty care provided at OLORMC. By morning light, a plan for every medical need had been addressed. Patients were settled in their hospital rooms, reunited with loved ones and discharged to regroup all that had been lost. True to the Franciscan Mission of Our Lady’s mission, we knew there was still more to do. We now had people under our care who had nothing to their name, not even a pair of shoes. So the opportunity to care for the person beyond their medical needs was once again before us. It began “as a whisper” shared among team members and soon, true to the heart of the Ascension Parish community, the resources began pouring in. Donations for patients in the form of gift cards for food, discounted hotel rates, and personal care items including clothing were shared with patient’s and family members arriving from out of town to be at their loved ones bedside. The tornado victims and their loved ones were forever touched by the love and generosity shared by this community. One family member gratefully stated, “When we arrived at our loved ones bedside, they didn’t even own a toothbrush and now we will need to rent a U-Haul to get them home.”

St Elizabeth Hospital extends a “thank you” to the Gonzales Police Department, LERN, Region 2 Coordinators and the countless other first responders who partnered with us throughout this emergency. A special thank you to the citizens of Ascension Parish for living the mission of St Elizabeth Hospital along with us, together we provided care for those most in need.
New Orleans Wins the Gold at AORN Surgical Conference & Expo

Ramie Miller, MSN, RN, CNOR

Louisiana Peri-operative Nurses shined bright at this year’s AORN (Association of peri-Operative Registered Nurses) Surgical Conference & Expo in Anaheim, California. From April 2-6, peri-operative nurses from around the world gathered to share information, education, and best practices in pre-, post-, and intra-operative nursing. Winning top honors was AORN of New Orleans-Chapter 1902, who were recognized with a Gold Award for excellence in an intermediate-sized AORN chapter. Accepting for New Orleans were executive leader Melissa Guidry, and Ann Burghardt-Dieck, an instructor at Charity School of Nursing in New Orleans. Burghardt-Dieck was previously recognized by AORN this past year for outstanding recruitment in AORN membership, and elicits outstanding engagement with student nurses in all aspects of peri-operative education.

Individual honors went to current AORN Secretary, Nathalie Walker, MBA, RN, CNOR, who was voted AORN’s 2016-2017 President/Elect; and Carrie Simpson, BSN, BA, RN, CNOR, was elected to AORN’s Board of Directors. Remarkably, Walker will be in the top position, as AORN president, when the Surgical Conference & Expo returns to New Orleans in 2018! Local AORN members are already beginning plans for an event of monumental proportions to highlight New Orleans and the many achievements of Louisiana Nurses.

Baton Rouge delegate, Shana Bounds, was involved in an inaugural panel discussion on Young Professionals Engagement. Baton Rouge leader, Kristy Simmons, current national member of the NLDC (Nominating, Leadership, and Development Committee), helped create an outstanding ballot filled with many 1st-time nominees and personally mentored several of the members during the months preceding final elections. The AORN Surgical Conference & Expo is the largest surgical products and services trade show in the U.S., and one of the largest in the world. It is attended by thousands of International and Domestic perioperative nurses for the purposes of networking, sharing tools & technology with vendors, and exploring new technologies in an ever-changing area of healthcare.

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Louisiana Action Coalition Holds Intense Leadership Training for RNs

Ann Jenkins

The Louisiana Action Coalition’s Nurse Leader Institute graduated its first class on November 13, 2015. Thirty-three registered nurses from across the state participated in the comprehensive five-day program.

“According to data from the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17.9 percent of RNs holding a managerial position plan to retire in the next five years,” said Barbara Morvant, MN, RN, project director for the Nurse Leader Institute and Louisiana Action Coalition Core Leadership Team member. “Our purpose was to develop a nurse leadership course to prepare registered nurses for leadership positions across the health care delivery spectrum and academia.”

Sixteen seasoned nurse leaders served as faculty for the program. Participants included nurses from a variety of clinical and educational settings across the state.

“The Nurse Leader Institute was created to provide nurse managers and emerging nurse leaders with the tools they need to be successful,” said Morvant. “We sent out a nurse leadership needs assessment earlier this year to all of Louisiana’s registered nurses. They identified this kind of training as a high-priority need, and we responded.”

Curriculum included segments on budgeting, communication, recruitment and retention, staff performance, quality improvement and personal leadership skills.

Sherry Peveto, MSN, RN, assistant professor at the University of Louisiana at Monroe’s Kitty Degree School of Nursing, said, “Technical skill, critical thinking and interpersonal skills - the instruction provided a clear framework that I can use to teach, coach, and challenge nursing students to become highly proficient in all three areas. In the new world of value-based purchasing, interpersonal skills will be the key to acquisition of all healthcare dollars. Technical and critical thinking have always been a given.”

“I would say that the Nurse Leader Institute is an investment for the future of quality healthcare,” said Kerrie Redmond, RN, BSN, director of Women’s Services at Terrebonne General Medical Center in Houma. “The mentoring was so valuable, and really inspired me to reach higher as a clinician and nursing leader in my facility.”

Those who completed the Nurse Leader Institute are now eligible to participate in a nine-month mentorship program during which each will be matched with an experienced nurse leader in his or her area of practice/interest. Those nurse leaders successfully completing both the Nurse Leader Institute and the mentorship program will be recognized as members of the Circle of Leaders through the Louisiana Nurses Foundation, Inc.

“We are happy to have this one under our belts,” said Morvant. “Given its level of success, we feel confident that making the Nurse Leader Institute an ongoing program is the right thing to do.”

Development of the Nurse Leader Institute was funded by donations from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana, Gifted Healthcare LLC and the Great 100 Nurses Foundation.

Registrations are being taken for the next Nurse Leader Institute, scheduled for June 20-24 in Baton Rouge. Complete information can be found on the LAC website at www.louisianafutureofnursing.org.

Note: The Louisiana State Nurses Association is a founding member of the Louisiana Action Coalition and a supporter of the Nurse Leader Institute. The Louisiana Nurses Foundation serves as the fiscal agent for LAC.
Applications will not be considered.

nursing scholarships to Louisiana nursing students!

acceptance directly to recipients. As of 2015, the LNF has provided 80 undergraduate

13, 2016

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required academic expenses only. Scholarships will be distributed based on availability

is enrolled full time: $2,500 for each semester OR if enrolled in a quarterly system,

period of their nursing program. The awards are for $5,000 per year while the student

eligibility and financial need. Students must be attending a state approved school of

the legacy and estate of Mr. E. Scott Woodard. The scholarship award is based on

the Louisiana Nurses Foundation (LNF), is now provided for the

2016 Woodard Nursing Scholarships Available

This undergraduate nursing scholarship for Louisiana students, administered by the Louisiana Nurses Foundation (LNF), is now provided for the seventh year through the legacy and estate of Mr. E. Scott Woodard. The scholarship award is based on eligibility and financial need. Students must be attending a state approved school of nursing of their choice that prepares students for initial licensure as Registered Nurses. They must have completed at least their first clinical laboratory course and hold a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.

Awards are administered to fund the recipient’s remaining length of the clinical period of their nursing program. The awards are for $5,000 per year while the student is enrolled full time: $2,500 for each semester OR if enrolled in a quarterly system, funds are equally divided among the quarters. Payments are made directly to the recipient’s school by the LNF beginning Fall term, 2016. Funds shall be used to pay required academic expenses only. Scholarships will be distributed based on availability of funds. Complete scholarship information and application forms are available at: www.lsna.org Students are encouraged to follow directions carefully as incomplete applications will not be considered. The hard copy application deadline is June 13, 2016. Applications will be reviewed and processed with timely notification of acceptance directly to recipients. As of 2015, the LNF has provided 80 undergraduate nursing scholarships to Louisiana nursing students!
The Nursing Community Honors Its Own. Louisiana Nurses Foundation Announces Nightingale Recipients, Awards of Quality Service in the Nursing Profession

BATON ROUGE, LA. On Saturday, March 5, 2016, the Louisiana Nurses Foundation hosted its twentieth Annual Nightingale Awards Program. Over 375 nurses, proud family members, co-workers and healthcare workers attended the event. Over 65 Registered Nurses representing a variety of healthcare institutions and schools of nursing were honored. Kyle Ardoin, First Assistant Secretary of State was emcee for the gala event. The Nightingale Awards ceremony is a special time when the nursing profession honors its own. The program is the “academy awards” of nursing and healthcare which recognizes quality service, commitment, and excellence for Registered Nurses in the state of Louisiana and institutions and employers of registered nurses that demonstrates recognition for professional nursing and innovation in leadership.

The Louisiana Nurses Foundation and Louisiana State Nurses Association wish to thank the sponsors of this event for making the 2016 Nightingale Awards program such a successful event. The following were this year’s sponsors:

Caregiver $500.00 level sponsors:
• Ochsner Health System
• The Spine Hospital of Louisiana at the NeuroMedical Center

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• Lenahan Medical, LLC

The nominations in each category are reviewed by a panel of judges—nursing leaders throughout the country. The Louisiana Nurses Foundation and Louisiana State Nurses Association wish to acknowledge and thank this esteemed panel of judges for their assistance. Without the support and participation from these judges the event could not be possible. They are:

• Janet Culver, CRNA, DNP, President, Culver Anesthesia Associates, PLLC, Former Chief Anesthetist, Lakeway RMC
• Mary A. Graff, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, President North Carolina Nurses Association
• Ernest Grant, RN, MSN, PhD(c), FAAN, Director of Outreach and Prevention, N.C. Jacee Burn Center, UNC Hospitals
• Jennifer M. Hitt, PhD, RN, CNE, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, University of Tennessee
• Jim Kernan, RN, MPLA, Board of Directors, ANA Massachusetts
• Elizabeth A. Mahoney, EdD, MS, RN, President, ANA-New York
• Evelyn Martin, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, Assistant Professor, West Virginia University School of Nursing

• Aimee McLean, BSN, RN, CCHP, President, Utah Nurses Association
• Jane Nelson, CAE, Chief Executive Officer, Oklahoma Nurses Association
• Margie Sipe, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Assistant Professor, MGH Institute of Health Professions/Nursing Program, Director-Quality, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, MA
• Leslie Verucchi, MSN, APRN-APN, BC, Past President, Delaware Nurses Association
• Cindy Zohnderick, PhD, RN, Executive Director, Texas Nurses Association

Induction into the Louisiana Nurses Hall of Fame recognizes a Registered Nurse’s lifelong commitment to the profession of nursing and the subsequent impact on the health or social history of Louisiana and continuing service as a contributor to the event that has value beyond the nurse’s own lifetime. The 2016 inductees into the Louisiana Nurses Foundation Hall of Fame were:

Dr. Sandra Chaisson Brown, APRN, DNS, Professor, Southern University and A&M College, School of Nursing
Dr. P K Sheerle, RN, Chief Executive Officer, Gifted Healthcare; and Terrie Sterling, RN, MSN, MBA, Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center.

There were 65 registered nurses nominated in individual award categories; with two schools of Nursing and 10 hospitals and healthcare facilities from Louisiana completing the list of nominees. A select panel of out-of-state registered nursing and healthcare leaders served as the panel of judges for the award selections.

The Louisiana Nurses Foundation is pleased to acknowledge and congratulate the following recipients for the 2016 Nightingale Awards:

• Andrea Normand; Our Lady of the Lake Children’s Hospital, Registered Nurse of the Year; Laura Bonanno, LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Advance Practice Nurse of the Year; Lorrie Powell, LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Nurse Researcher of the Year; George Kirkman, Ochsner Medical Center, Nurse Educator of the Year; Stephanie Pierre, LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Registered Nurse Mentor of the Year; Ryan Jacobsen, VA Medical Center, Overton Brooks, Clinical Practice Nurse of the Year; Tammy Barron, Rapides Regional Medical Center, Clinical Nurse Educator of the Year; Selina Guidry, Lafayette Surgical Specialty Hospital, Nursing Administrator of the Year; Bridget Gardner, University Medical Center New Orleans, Outstanding Community Achievement by a Registered Nurse; Wanda Spurlock, Southern University and A&M College, School of Nursing, Nursing Educator of the Year (Faculty, School of Nursing); Demetrius Porche, LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Nursing School Administrator of the Year.

• Louisiana Tech University—Division of Nursing; Nursing School of the Year, Undergraduate Degree Programs; LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Nursing School of the Year, Graduate Degree Programs; Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana, Outstanding Employer of the Year.

The Spine Hospital of Louisiana at the NeuroMedical Center, Hospital of the Year—60 beds or less; Lane Regional Medical Center, Hospital of the Year—61 to 100 beds; Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, Hospital of the Year—101 beds or greater.

Other nominees for each category were:
Registered Nurse of the Year:
• Eric Arceneaux, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center, Cynthia York, Louisiana State Board of Nursing, and Shana Zuny, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center.

Advance Practice Registered Nurse of the Year:
• Cathleen Baudy, New Orleans VA Medical Center, Colette Blanchard, Associates in Women’s Health, Jeaninne Lafaunce, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center, C’Lita Lombard, University Medical Center New Orleans, and Lisa Tabor, United Health Group.

Rookie of the Year:
• Lauren Cross, Ochsner Health System, Augustus Dugas, Louisiana State Board of Nursing, and Aisha McMillan, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center.

• Evelyn Arnold, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center, and Shana Zuny, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center.

• Andrea Normand, Our Lady of the Lake Children’s Hospital, Registered Nurse of the Year; Laura Bonanno, LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Advance Practice Nurse of the Year; Lorrie Powell, LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Nurse Researcher of the Year; George Kirkman, Ochsner Medical Center, Nurse Educator of the Year; Stephanie Pierre, LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Registered Nurse Mentor of the Year; Ryan Jacobsen, VA Medical Center, Overton Brooks, Clinical Practice Nurse of the Year; Tammy Barron, Rapides Regional Medical Center, Clinical Nurse Educator of the Year; Selina Guidry, Lafayette Surgical Specialty Hospital, Nursing Administrator of the Year; Bridget Gardner, University Medical Center New Orleans, Outstanding Community Achievement by a Registered Nurse; Wanda Spurlock, Southern University and A&M College, School of Nursing, Nursing Educator of the Year (Faculty, School of Nursing); Demetrius Porche, LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing, Nursing School Administrator of the Year.

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• The Spine Hospital of Louisiana at the NeuroMedical Center, Hospital of the Year—60 beds or less; Lane Regional Medical Center, Hospital of the Year—61 to 100 beds; Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, Hospital of the Year—101 beds or greater.
2016 Nightingale

Registered Nurse of the Year
Andrea Normand

Advance Practice Nurse of the Year
Laura Bonanno

Nurse Researcher of the Year
Lorrie Powell

Rookie of the Year
George Kirkman

Registered Nurse Mentor of the Year
Stephanie Pierce

Clinical Practice Nurse of the Year
Ryan Jacobsen

Clinical Nurse Educator of the Year
Tammy Barron

Nursing Administrator of the Year
Selina Guidry

Outstanding Community Achievement by a Registered Nurse
Bridget Gardner

Nursing Educator of the Year (Faculty, School of Nursing)
Wanda Spurlock

Nursing School Administrator of the Year
Demetrius Porche

Nursing School of the Year — Graduate Degree Programs
LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing

Nursing School of the Year — Undergraduate Degree Programs
Louisiana Tech University – Division of Nursing

Outstanding Employer of the Year
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana

Hospital of the Year (60 beds or less)
The Spine Hospital of Louisiana at the NeuroMedical Center

Hospital of the Year (81 to 160 beds)
Lane Regional Medical Center

Hospital of the Year (161 beds or greater)
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
nursing in Louisiana prior to the inclusion of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses in statute. She served on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing’s (NCSBN) Practice and Education Committee for over 5 years, 2 of which she served as Chairman. She received the NCSBN’s Meritorious Service Award in 1990, in recognition for significant contributions to the mission and vision of NCSBN.

Also, in her role of LSBN Nurse Practice Consultant and a dedicated member of the Louisiana State Nurses Association, Sister Lucie was the driving force behind the Association establishing the Louisiana Nurses Network for Impaired Professionals, to assist nurses suffering from chemical dependency. She believed in early detection and referral for treatment to be in the best interest of both the public and the nurse and gave countless volunteer hours to help establish the program as a Memorandum of Agreement between the LSBN and the LSNA.

Her many awards and recognitions include 2003 induction into the LSNA Hall of Fame, one of the New Orleans District Nurses Association’s Great 100 nurses and was “Nun of the Year.” While serving at Our Lady of Wisdom Healthcare Center, she received the Leading Age Gulf States “Distinguished Service Award” for her outstanding contribution towards the welfare of older persons.

In her later years, Sister served her congregation in several positions and continued in her ministry as Pastoral Care Assistant at Our Lady of Wisdom Healthcare Center up to recently before her illness and death.

Those who knew Sister Lucie Leonard knew her wisdom, humility, and spirituality. She led with vision and grace. For the nursing community who knew her or were touched by her, contributions may be made in her honor in the LSBN’s Foundation.

The Louisiana State Nurses’ Association (LSNA) is trying to meet the needs of our consumers better by expanding our Nursing Continuing Education activities in the coming year. As part of that process, we plan to offer 6 live programs across the state as well as begin to formulate a library of enduring materials that can be accessed and completed at the learner’s discretion. The LSNA Provider Unit is soliciting authors to develop one contact hour Continuing Nursing Education enduring educational activities. A one contact hour activity is the approximate equivalent of 10 type written pages (240 words/page). The author is responsible for identifying the activity’s purpose, learner outcomes, teaching methodologies, evidence based resources, and a learner posttest. LSNA’s Provider Unit will develop the evaluation plan and will provide the author with learner feedback each time the activity is completed by a consumer. An enduring activity will remain an active part of our enduring materials library for up to 5 years.

To compensate for the development of this activity, authors will receive complimentary registration at one (1) LSNA provided nursing continuing education activity of their choice in 2017 and 2018. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or need further information about developing such an activity. I can be reached at lsna@lsbna.org or (318) 780-8473.

Thank you for considering this undertaking. I hope to hear from you soon.

Respectfully,
Diane Graham Webb, MSN, RN
Lead Nurse Planner, Provider Unit
Louisiana State Nurses’ Association
Communication, communication, communication...

Georgia Johnson, LSNA Secretary

In preparation for strategic planning, by the LSNA Board of Directors, a survey was sent to the District Nurses Associations to solicit input that would be relevant to the process. Although the response was limited, the information received was beneficial – suggestions for recruitment, methods for involvement, CE topics, preferred schedules for workshops, acceptable for CE, priority functions, value of website content, usefulness of Pelican News content, etc. Related information was sent to the responsible parties and survey results were sent to DNA Presidents.

One need identified was communication. In an effort to address the need for improved, ongoing communication from LSNA, several actions have been implemented. Information related to membership was sent to the DNA - recruitment/retention ideas, including student nurse involvement and notification of the 2016 Recruitment Challenge, including monthly progress reports. See the membership section for first quarter results.

The monthly Insider has been reinstated, as a members-only benefit. This is a monthly news flash sent to LSNA Members only. The intent is to provide current information about LSNA and other association and healthcare happenings that are occurring between the quarterly issues of the Pelican News.

This is being made available through LSNA partnership with the Southern Strategist Group. If you are too busy to read it, you can skip any daily issue or if you are already receiving too many daily e-mails, and this is not a topic of interest to you, then you can opt out on the delivery. For those of you that enjoy being informed of current events then this is a service for you.

LSNA recognizes that the current website is not appealing and the content is not current; this impacts the perception of the association. Currently, posting of information has to be done through the Webmaster; this is done quarterly, it is expensive and causes delay in information. We need rebranding, modernization, improved technology, and the ability to change any of the content on the site ourselves, including all news items, photo galleries, information. We need rebranding, modernization, improved technology, and the ability to change any of the content on the site ourselves, including all news items, photo galleries, information. The Board is exploring options to improve the access, capacity, value, financial impact, appearance, content and relevance of the LSNA website so that we can enhance member value - information, communication, education, networking, services, deliverables.

Finally, communication is a two-way effort. Information has been sent to the districts for response – the survey, recruitment/retention ideas, operational handbook content, etc. Letters are sent to members that have cancelled their membership requesting feedback on reason. As part of the Recruitment Challenge, new members will be requested to return a postage paid, pre-addressed post card crediting the member that recruited them. The success of our effort to recognize the members that recruit the most members will be dependent upon the return of this information. LSNA is here to serve you. We can only meet your needs and improve our services based on your comments and advice received in response to our inquiries.

“Electric communication will never be a substitute for the face of someone who with their soul encourages another person to be brave and true.”

- Charles Dickens

The 2016 date is picked!! November 3, 2016!

We will be sailing on the Carnival Triumph!

Sailing date is Thursday, November 3th, 2016 and returning Monday, November 7th, 2016. This is a 4 day cruise!

Sails from New Orleans to Cozumel, Mexico
You must book through Travel Central to attend the CE program. This is so we can have the appropriate meeting space for our group.
Travel Central will be able to meet all web specials!

Call Nancy at Travel Central for information on additional pricing options, upgrades, suite prices, etc.

• Deposits are required at this time to hold rate but are refundable (certain restrictions apply) if your plans change. Please contact Nancy at Travel Central for details on refunds.
• Space is limited. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. THIS IS A POPULAR TRIP, EARLY RESERVATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED and this is the ONLY way to lock in the excellent price.
• Early Deposit of $200 per person is recommended to secure cabin of choice.

Rates include 4 nights, accommodations, meals and entertainment on board, port charges, and taxes per person based on double occupancy.
Rates:

• Interior double cabin-$382.14 per person
• Ocean view double-$432.14 per person
• Balcony cabin-$532.14 per person
• Deposit of $200.00 per person to hold actual cabin.

Contact Nancy at Travel Central | 3221 Causeway Blvd. - Metairie, LA 70002
(347) 255-5614 | (1-800) 899-8553 | fax (504) 834-0159
e-mail: nancy@travelcentralvacations.com
Nancy can meet all website prices offered by Carnival!

Remember, you do not have to be a nurse to go—so bring your family and friends!!!
Baton Rouge District Nurses Association

Submitted by Clara Earl, Wenona Bell, Sharon Bator, and Karen Loden

The 2016 Celebrate Nursing Honorees (see list below)

The Baton Rouge District held its annual Celebrate Nursing Banquet on May 2, 2016, when we honored 24 nurses within the community who have shed and excelled in the nursing profession and who were nominated by their peers. In addition to dinner, each “Honoree” received a framed certificate and a long stem rose. The event, held at Boudreaux’s on Government St., Baton Rouge, is known “as a night to remember.” Those recognized are as follows:

Edith Lohue Scholarship Recipients
1. LaTonya S. Dorsev Our Lady of the Lake College
2. Mary P. Dudley National Hansen’s Disease Programs

Helen Johnson Cremeeens Excellence in Teaching Recipient
1. LaTonya S. Dorsev Our Lady of the Lake College

Nominees
1. Gregory Altazan Baton Rouge General Medical Center
2. Barbara Anthony SBAFA, Inc. Legal Nurse Consulting Business
3. Lacie Aldridge Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
4. Jena Austin Woman’s Hospital
5. Mandy Lea Broussard OLOL College
6. Laura Brown Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
7. Lisa Bayhi AIM Palliative Care
8. Maya Ki Briscoe Baton Rouge General Medical Center
9. Elizabeth Choutes Woman’s Hospital
10. Tyrus Ray Cobb Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
11. Jason Gowyn Lane Regional Medical Center
12. Cristy Gremillion Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
13. Laura Gomez Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
14. Gena Kalil Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
15. Elizabeth LeCoq Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
16. Jennifer Lejeune Baton Rouge General Medical Center
17. Jessica Morris Woman’s Hospital
18. Vinnie Marcell Southern University School of Nursing
19. Lindsay Bratton Mullins OLOL College
20. Jill Newell Woman’s Hospital
21. Jacey Norris Woman’s Hospital
22. Dusty Cole Pourciau OLOL College
23. Nicole Scott OLOL College
24. Francine C. Thomas OLOL College

On April 4, several BRDNA members, non-members, and the BR Hospital School of Nursing students attended the LSNA Nurses Day, Link to the Legislative. Everyone attending appreciated Dr. Rebecca Gee, the legislative panels, a Q and A section, our LSNA legislative policy panel (LSNA lobbyist Randall Johnson, Patricia La Brosse, and Lisa Deaton) and all others who educated us on the happenings at the Louisiana Legislature.

The district is working on many things and strongly encourages all nurses in our seven parishes to join us and get involved.

Upcoming CE presentations include:
August 11: Simulation in Nursing Education by Trudy Williams, PhD, RN of Southern University.
September 8, Cheryl Taylor PhD, RN, FAAN, will present “Using Social Media Wisely to Protect Your License, Your Patients and Your Profession: ANA’s Revised Code of Ethics”
October 12, Evelyn Robinson PhD, RN “Knowledge and Attitudes Toward End-of-Life Care” and November 10. Locations will be rotated, please check the BRDNA.org website.
We hope to see you then.

Alice Battista, MSN, RN, CHPN (a BRDNA member) presented a 2.4 hour program on Ethics in Nursing and End of life issues including other pertinent issues.

The district had many of its members recognized at the Nightingale Banquet held March 5th at the L’Auberge Casino in Baton Rouge, LA. Congratulations to Dr. Sandra C. Brown who was inducted into the Hall of Fame, to Dr. Wanda Spurlock who received the Educator of the Year Award and to our other members who were nominated or received an award.

Congratulations to Dr. Valerie Schluter. She received the Franciscan Service Award presented by OLOL RMC last February. She was recognized for her contributions to the community.

Members should be receiving notices from our constant contact / corresponding secretary, Mary Dudley. If you “liked” us on face book, we are there, thanks to our publicity board member, Wenona Bell. Our website continues to be updated slowly and we continue to learn how to make it better.

Regarding membership, Dr. Edna Hull, Clara Earl and others visited with LASN, nursing students at their schools in April and May. The goal: to put faces with the organization; thereby increase awareness, knowledge and membership. This activity was planned before the LSNA challenge.

Another goal is to update our BRDNA Archives; anyone with old records or an interest, please contact us.

Your Baton Rouge District President represented you at the March Health Summit at Pennington, participated in the LSNA President’s meeting and the Louisiana Action Coalition Meetings (LAC).

If you have read and heard about LAC, want to be involved and have not been contacted, or if you want to know more about the BRDNA, please contact BRDNA.org. The recent focus for LAC has been on “Diversity in Nursing” for our region.

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On February 11, Dr. Valerie Schluter presented her dissertation "The Transition from Clinical Practice to Academic Citizenship in Nursing Faculty."

The March meeting was postponed related to heavy rains and flooding. The rescheduled meeting was April 14 at Southern University, SON auditorium. Dr. Sandra Robinson, PhD, RN was inducted into the Hall of Fame, to Dr. Wanda Spurlock who received the Educator of the Year Award and to our other members who were nominated or received an award.

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(L-R) Dr. Valerie Schluter, President-elect BRDNA; LaTonya S. Dorsev, Our Lady of the Lake College; and LaToria Thomas, Baton Rouge Area Foundation representative. Ms. Dorsev is the 2016 recipient of the Helen Johnson Cremeeens Excellence in Teaching Award. There have been 17 educators to receive this award created by Mr. Carlton Cremeens, an endowment in honor of his wife.

(L-R) Mary Dudley received the Edith LoBe Memorial Scholarship from Cindy Schneider, BRDNA Treasurer, Programs. The Edith LoBe Memorial Scholarship is established and given by the BRDNA.

(L-R) Dr. Wanda Spurlock, Nurse Educator of the Year, and Dr. Sandra Brown, Hall of Fame Inductee, at the Nightingale Gala.

Sitting, from left: Trudy Williams and Paula Julian.

2nd row, from left: President Clara Earl, Vice President Sharon Bator, President-elect Valerie Schluter, Treasurer Cindy Schneider, board member Wenona Bell. 3rd row, from left: Serena Sanford, Sandra Robinson, Edna Hull, Mary Dudley, Bromyn Doyle and Diane Mathews.

BRDNA would like to thank Cleve Brown Photography for providing some of the pictures for this article.
Northshore District Nurses Association

Georgia Johnson, President

In an effort to address the future nursing shortage, NDNA initiated participation in the Regional and State Science Fairs. In February, we participated in the Region VII Science Fair at Southeastern in the Special Award category. Sue DeLaune, VP and Georgia Johnson, Pres. judged in the junior division of Biomedical and Health. NDNA awarded a certificate and cash prizes for 3rd/$25, 2nd/$50 and 1st/$75 to projects related to health, wellness, illness prevention, disease management and treatment or medical research and treatment advances. Each participant was provided with a short handout stating the reasons for becoming a nurse. An appeal was made again to the audience at the time of presenting the awards. In March, Georgia and Sue did the same at the State Fair at LSU; this time it was the senior division in Biomedical and Health. This activity was part of the district’s goal to promote nursing as a career and it was visibility for the Association.

In March, there was a great presentation on Medication Safety that was provided by Allison Maestri, Clinical Specialist. The content included a review of the literature and findings from a research project conducted by the Nursing Research Committee at Ochsner Northshore. The findings were very informative and relevant to nursing practice. We had great attendance with members returning, nonmember guests and a group of student nurses from SLU. A student nurse won the door prize.

LSNA sponsored a Presidents’ Dinner, the evening prior to the “Link to the Legislature,” that was attended by NDNA President, Georgia Johnson (as the LSNA Secretary). Therefore, Sue DeLaune, NDNA Vice President, attended as representative of NDNA. Terry Joseph, NDNA Director of Operations, joined Sue and Georgia the next day for LINK. All three attended the LANPAC luncheon as voting members, where Sue DeLaune was elected as LANPAC, Vice Chair – congratulations Sue!

Due to increased attendance at our meetings, we have out grown our usual site and will therefore relocate our meetings to Bosco’s Restaurant, 2040 Hwy 59, Mandeville; meetings are 6 PM. Our next programs are: May 17th - “Positive Energy and Conscious Change: Making a Difference for Ourselves and Our Patients” by Mitzi Myers; July 19th - “The Role of a SANE Nurse” by Anne Troy. November 15th - “The Role of our Patients” by Mitzi Myers;

In addition to completing an online application, a cover letter, resume, transcripts and references must be attached online for full consideration.

LSNA Secretary at LSNA Presidents’ Dinner

Sue DeLaune, NDNA Vice President at LSU State Science Fair

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES**
Fulltime • Monroe Campus

The Executive Director of Nursing and Health Sciences, provides leadership for faculty, program directors, students and staff within Nursing and Allied Health-related disciplines.

Qualifications:

 Chiefs of Staff

 Master’s degree in Nursing, with a minimum of three years experience in the areas of nursing education and three years in clinical practice.

 Registered Nurse license to practice in Louisiana is required.

 Doctorate in Nursing preferred.

 For more information and to apply, visit www.ladelta.edu/about/careers/career-opportunities. In addition to completing an online application, a cover letter, resume, transcripts and references must be attached online for full consideration.

 Louisiana Delta Community College is an equal opportunity, Title VI recipient.

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Ms. Shelly Welch, Chief Nursing Officer at North Oaks Health System, Dr. Ralph Wood (Assistant Dean, Southeastern Louisiana University, College of Nursing and Health Sciences) and Dr. Luanne Billingsley (Assistant Professor, Southeastern Louisiana University, School of Nursing) presented, “Health Transition Alliance Program: An Academic-Practice Partnership Model to Improve Client Outcomes and Student Experiences” to area registered nurses and nursing students. This presentation shared the benefits of an academic-practice partnership between Southeastern and North Oaks Health System, which was designed to provide transitional care through a broad range of client services aimed at decreasing adverse events, improving client satisfaction, and decreasing rehospitalization rates. Participants who attended the Tangipahoa District Nurses Association (TDNA) event were able to discuss initiatives made available through the ANA’s Website, offers valuable resources to our members.

- FREE: ANA’s Online Continuing Education gives you easy access to the highest quality issue-based and clinical CE topics. Whether you’re looking to advance in your career, understand new laws and regulations, or simply keep your license and certification up to date, ANA has CE that will help you meet your goals while improving your patients’ outcomes.
- Please log in to ANA’s website, http://www. nursingsworld.org/, for access to many exclusive features and services for members. This includes access to your special MyANA page where you can change your profile, print your Member card, link to your state association site, access your special ANA groups and ANA NurseSpace.org and much, much more. Check out ANA’s Member Value Program! If you need help finding your login information, please contact the ANA Membership Department at 1-800-923-7709.
- Update needed to your ANA membership information? Follow these simple steps…
  1. Go to: http://www.nursingsworld.org/
  2. Click on: MY ANA (tab in top left corner of the blue bar)
  3. LOGIN – if you do not have a login in name yet it is free to register.
  4. Click on: Modify Profile
  5. Update with new information
  6. Click on: Update Profile

Pelican News, LSNA’s quarterly newsletter publication, goes to every RN in the state.
- If you are not receiving the Pelican News and are an RN please make sure your address is up to date with LSBN. Go to services at http://www.lbsn.state.la.us/ or call 225-755-7500.
- Anyone may submit an article to be reviewed for possible publication. Please check out page 2 of the Pelican or go to our website, lsna.org, for information on how to submit an article.

**Tangipahoa District Nurses Association**

Ms. Welch shared an overview of the Affordable Care Act, highlighting the Triple Aim objectives, which include providing better care, better health, and lower cost. Major components and key elements to achieve these objectives were discussed. She explained that with Medicare inpatient payments at risk, it was imperative to improve client care in the home setting to reduce hospital readmissions. The academic-practice partnership model was used to form the Health Transitions Alliance (HTA) program. Transitions to home, and client health and disease management, between hospitalizations became a priority. The targeted population included those Medicare beneficiaries – frequently readmitted with chronic illnesses, high emergency utilization for chronic illnesses, and those who simply have a high risk for readmission. The HTA program has lead to a readmission rate improvement. Preliminary findings show that at least 75% of those clients engaged in the program have not been readmitted. Data analysis is in progress.

Dr. Wood explained how the Southeastern Department of Kinesiology and Health Studies interns are able to participate in the program. He shared their ongoing work as part of the HTA interdisciplinary team. The targeted population is often required to manage chronic illness with its associated complex treatment regimen. To improve self-management among these clients, Dr. Wood revised a senior-level course, Health Coaching for Behavior Change, to teach interns about behavioral health interventions using Behavior Change Theory, Goal Setting, and Motivational Interviewing to engage patients in the adoption of healthy behaviors. Interns participate in coaching sessions, weekly huddles, care-coordination team meetings, as well as intern meetings to review motivational interviewing techniques, prepare for weekly staffing, and process client issues. Interns were available to share their experiences, which included developing strong attachments to their clients, and learning to effectively use resources to meet their client’s diverse needs.

Dr. Billingsley discussed feasibility study results, which evaluated the use of technology to improve medication adherence in the home setting. Ineffective medication adherence can lead to chronic health conditions, hospital admissions, and other avoidable health care costs. It has been reported that 33% to 69% of medication-related hospital admissions were due to non-adherence to prescribed medication treatments. Many barriers exist to optimal medication adherence that may be mitigated with the use of technology in patient homes. Southeastern community nursing students piloted the use of the Medminder, an electronic pill dispenser, which was provided by the USDA grant obtained by Dr. Carruth. Students found that while the technology provided a multifaceted approach to help clients take their medication, costs related to monthly monitoring fees, the use of the technology, and the process of filling the pill dispenser could be ongoing challenges. The successful use of technology can reduce the number of medication errors and hospital admissions. However, it is important to tailor devices for the patient’s cognitive and physical abilities. Some students shared that their experience in this project changed the way they provide patient education.

Participants who attended the presentation recognized the benefits that an academic-practice partnership can provide to its stakeholders including clients, faculty, students, organizations, university, and the community. TDNA President, Ms. Rachel Artigues, thanked sponsors and attendees for a great evening, and invited them to stay for networking to follow.
LSNA is considered the voice of nursing in Louisiana. Membership is the primary revenue for the operation of the Louisiana State Nurses Association. Revenue is needed to sponsor activities of the Association:

- Maintain headquarters
- Update the LSNA website
- Retain Legislative Representation
- Present Nurse Day/Link to Legislature
- Support Nightingale Awards
- Support Louisiana Action Coalition (LAC)
- Support the La. Nurses Foundation (LFN)
- Quarterly Pelican News to all Nurses
- Support the La. Student Nurses Association (LASN)

In addition to the aforementioned benefits, membership provides less tangible benefits - the chance for information sharing, networking, career development, professional development, personal development, protection and promotion of our profession.

Information Sharing – LSNA makes a concerted effort to keep members (and non-members) up-to-date with current information related to clinical practice, healthcare policy, advocacy, legislation, nursing supply/demand, continuing education opportunities, happenings in other districts and healthcare facilities. This is accomplished through information available to all nurses via the quarterly Pelican News, our Facebook page, website information and CE events. Members also receive the monthly Insider, special alerts on critical issues and information disseminated to the district nurses’ association directly. There is an opportunity to provide information to LSNA via surveys, district requests for feedback, and direct contact via membership@lsna.org.

Networking – There is the opportunity to exchange information among individuals and cultivate relationships aimed at a common interest - to foster high standards for professional nursing practice for all Registered Nurses and advocate for quality healthcare for the citizens of Louisiana. Unlike specialty organizations, LSNA is comprised of nurses at all education levels, all nursing specialties, all positions (staff, faculty, Administrators) and any work setting. This diversity of membership provides the greatest wealth of knowledge and expertise that can offer support and assistance, share ideas, discuss concerns and seek advice.

Career Development – For those at the entry level in nursing, membership can support the pursuit of progressive advancement/achievement in the profession. There is access to job opportunities via networking, job listings, and career resources. There is a focus on the transition of new graduates and their mentoring.

Professional Involvement – For those ascending the career ladder, membership offers the progressive attainment of additional knowledge, skills and abilities to enhance career - continuing education, certifications, journals/publications, scholarship information, awards/recognition for achievements, leadership opportunities, and self-development. Remain abreast of activities at local facilities, and gain knowledge of current events.

Personal Development – Perhaps one of the unique benefits of membership is the chance to acquire knowledge/skills at operational components of an organization. If actively involved at the district or state level one can participate in marketing, promotions, recruitment, promoting the profession as a career, utilizing social media to advance the association, developing education programs, acquiring CE approval, organizing community events, promoting volunteerism, publishing a Newsletter, writing articles, coordinating fund raising activities/events, participating on a speaker’s bureau, serving on committees. Become a leader in the association at the local or state level as an officer or director and contribute to the direction of the association by participating in decision making, engaging in strategic planning, goal development, etc.

Promote and protect our profession – The organization promotes our professional image, publicizes the value of our service, encourages research studies, supports advance practice, fosters the selection of nursing as a career choice. The organization also maintains the status and integrity of the profession and promotes its welfare through standards of practice, code of ethics, position statements, scope of practice, legislative liaison, workplace advocacy, and representation on health related groups.

Finally, membership in the association is a professional responsibility. As a professional there is an obligation to give back to your profession. Do you consider nursing a job or a career? Your professional representation is being carried on the backs of those that are a member of LSNA. Others are working on your behalf to protect and promote nursing in Louisiana. Isn’t one hour of salary/month worth supporting your profession? If NOT now, when?

**DISTRICTS CHALLENGE REPORT**
**1ST QTR (January–March 2016)**

There will be recognition at the 2017 House of delegates for the DNA that achieves the highest percentage increase in membership in 2016. January 2016 membership will be compared to December 2016 membership to calculate the percentage increase and the DNA that recruits the most graduates in 2016. Below are the current results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICTS</th>
<th>Jan. (baseline)</th>
<th>Current Month</th>
<th>% Increase</th>
<th>NEW GRADS (YTD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Alexandria</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>.034</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Baton Rouge</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>.028</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Northshore</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>.048</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Lafayette</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>.048</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Lake Charles</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Monroe</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>.051</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. New Orleans</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>.040</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Ruston</td>
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<td>9. Shreveport</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>.031</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Tangipahoa</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>.058</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Bayou</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Feliciania</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kudos to those districts in the lead. There is plenty of time for the other districts to move ahead…take the challenge.
Membership News

Membership is Lean, Let’s Increase in 2016

Monchelle Boldt, RN, MSN-HCSM
Chair of the LSNA Membership Committee

The benefits of belonging to LSNA are many, as referenced in the article, “Why Belong to LSNA?” While LSNA is the voice for all nurses in Louisiana, only a fraction are members. LSNA is implementing several initiatives to increase membership – recruitment at LSNA/DNA events, increase affiliate membership, new graduate challenge, each one reach one campaign, etc. The following describes the 2016 membership challenge:

EACH ONE, REACH ONE – This is an individual member challenge for each current member to recruit just one new member. We could double our membership just with this simple act. For those that like a challenge just one new member. We could double our membership challenge for each current member to recruit at least one new graduate. This is a contest among the district nurses’ associations (DNA) to see which DNA can attain the highest percentage increase in membership in 2016. January 2016 membership will be compared to December 2015 membership to calculate the percentage increase. The winning District will be recognized at the 2017 House of Delegates. In addition, the DNA that recruits the most grads will be recognized. Comparative data will be sent to the districts monthly and the current membership will be posted in the Pelican News. Refer to the Membership section for the first quarter results.

The LSNA Membership Committee has updated materials and is setting up the LSNA recruitment table at Association events. Most recently Melody Eschette set up the table at LINK to the Legislature, including a 50/50 raffle that was won by Kim Dyer, BRDNA.

Take the challenge – increased membership is essential to our future.

NEW GRADUATES – WE NEED YOU

Amanda Bolton, RN, BSN
Director, Transition to Practice

The Association needs new graduates to join. New nurses are essential to the future of the association. Not only is increased membership needed, there is the necessity to connect with those entering the profession to gain your perspective, nurture your career, obtain your involvement, develop association leadership for the future and protect the long term welfare of nursing. This can be achieved through membership at the district level. New graduates can join for half price within the first six months of graduation.

Getting new graduates to join the Association is only the first step. Once a member, we need to get them involved and assure that they continue their membership once the reduced rate expires. The Transition to Practice Committee is currently working with the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses to encourage membership and will make an effort to connect with new graduates that join. As LSNA Director of Transition to Practice, I had the opportunity to meet with the student nurses from Baton Rouge General School of Nursing that attended LINK to the Legislature. Association leaders are utilizing the newly developed power point presentation – “The Power of Belonging” to speak to graduating seniors. Schools of Nursing should contact LSNA Headquarters to arrange the presentation.

The District that recruits the most graduates in 2016 will be recognized at the 2017 LSNA House of Delegates.
Welcome New / Reinstated Members of LSNA!

The following are some of the members who have recently joined or reenlisted in the Louisiana State Nurses Association (LSNA).

- Lisa Feliciano, LA01 Alexandria
- Dorothy Elizabeth (Kiser) Flaherty, LA01 Alexandria
- Norma Marie Myers Simpson, LA01 Alexandria
- Debra Smith, LA01 Alexandria
- Louis Swain, LA01 Alexandria
- Rena M. Brown, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Allisson Champagne, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Amy David, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Anna Minette Dedman, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Jorrell R. Dixon, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Lori Fontenot, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Roger M. Guerin, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Elise Reed Jordan, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Chadwick Marion Kenney, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Saraphine Latchie, LA01 Baton Rouge
- Nia’a Stevona Mann, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Shamek Kenyon Manning, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Tony W. Manogin, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Shannon McCabe, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Stephanie Tara McMillan, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Sharon Miller, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Melissa Miller, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Jobe Nasca, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Margaret A. Osagwu, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Tyquincia S. Rogers, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Wendy Singleton, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Jasmine R. Thrahs, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Kristen Dagro Villar, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Mary Elizabeth White, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Sandy Whitington, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Emma A. Wicker, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Kristin Michelle Womack, LA02 Baton Rouge
- Marsha Calpepper, LA03 Northshore
- Lana Gayle Dileo, LA03 Northshore
- Kathleen K. Gannon, LA03 Northshore
- Alicia Homonich, LA03 Northshore
- Cody Kennedy, LA03 Northshore
- Lisa Linnville, LA03 Northshore
- David Kay Miller, LA03 Northshore
- Marilyn A. Sullivan, LA03 Northshore
- Helen Olasunmade Ajala, LA04 Lafayette
- Miyukihisa Evans-George, LA04 Lafayette
- Megan Elizabeth Paul, LA04 Lafayette
- Warren Paul Hebert, LA04 Lafayette
- Dawn Huggins, LA04 Lafayette
- Zara Elizabeth Lanier, LA04 Lafayette
- Cheryl Laws, LA04 Lafayette
- Tiffany Lamagne Mango, LA04 Lafayette
- Stormy Lee Matte, LA04 Lafayette
- Carol Michaud, LA04 Lafayette
- Krista Landreneau Reed, LA04 Lafayette
- Gina Simoneaux, LA04 Lafayette
- Kelly Laclos Spurgeon, LA04 Lafayette
- Shelia Marie Chandler, LA05 Lake Charles
- Alecsa Comeaux, LA05 Lake Charles
- Lisa Sullivan, LA05 Lake Charles
- Latoya Monique Washington, LA05 Lake Charles
- Alexis Neche’ White, LA05 Lake Charles
- Billie Jo Bailey, LA06 Monroe
- Kristie B. Cuthrell, LA06 Monroe
- Neta Ford, LA06 Monroe
- Nathan Hancock, LA06 Monroe
- Carolyn Lewis, LA06 Monroe
- Emily Marcantonio, LA06 Monroe
- Hiedi Reeves, LA06 Monroe
- Kendra L. Young, LA06 Monroe
- Jeanne M. Allemann, LA07 New Orleans
- Ruisak Moronkeji-Yusuf Babatunde, LA07 New Orleans
- Deborah Bell, LA07 New Orleans
- Akemy Cole, LA07 New Orleans
- Teri L. Corce, LA07 New Orleans
- Lynell Joseph Desdunes, LA07 New Orleans
- Kimberly R. Guilbeau, LA07 New Orleans
- Lista C. Hank, LA07 New Orleans
- Laura A. Heytens, LA07 New Orleans
- Freida Howard, LA07 New Orleans
- Charlotte S. Hurst, LA07 New Orleans
- Angela Ingargiola, LA07 New Orleans
- Victoria Faquett Johnson, LA07 New Orleans
- Angela Margarette Johnson, LA07 New Orleans
- Victoria Faquett Johnson, LA07 New Orleans
- Rhonda Mailhos, LA07 New Orleans
- Dione Mallote, LA07 New Orleans
- Beverly Marretta, LA07 New Orleans
- Tara McKnight, LA07 New Orleans
- Analisa McMullen, LA07 New Orleans
- Nathalie Orrego, LA07 New Orleans
- Terry Dalmas Praylo, LA07 New Orleans
- Kasey Fine Ragas, LA07 New Orleans
- Rose Saizan, LA07 New Orleans
- Jennifer Dibonno Sparacio, LA07 New Orleans
- Ann T. Tahara, LA07 New Orleans
- Shelley Thibebau, LA07 New Orleans
- Troy Trosclair, LA07 New Orleans
- Valerie C. Vaughn, LA07 New Orleans
- John Christopher Williams, LA07 New Orleans
- Kendall Young, LA07 New Orleans
- Sandra Browder, LA08 Ruston
- Katrina Bailey, LA10 Shreveport
- Keisha C. Bolden-Diaz, LA10 Shreveport
- Heather Bowman, LA10 Shreveport
- Jennifer Fair Carpenter, LA10 Shreveport
- Robyne Champagne, LA10 Shreveport
- Jennifer Crawford Darlin, LA10 Shreveport
- Kaylea Colen Doucet, LA10 Shreveport
- Kimberly Durfee, LA10 Shreveport
- Brianna T. Gordon, LA10 Shreveport
- Caleb Hankins, LA10 Shreveport
- Emiko Perkins, LA10 Shreveport
- Antje Melaine Wall-Craig, LA10 Shreveport
- Rosalind Renee Mobley, LA11 Tangipahoa
- Breille Kikka Rick, LA11 Tangipahoa
- Dawn Beebe Herbert, LA12 Bayou

Please send all questions or concerns regarding membership to Karen Loden at membership@lsna.org.
Renew your passion for nursing in an environment that celebrates your faith.

Join CHRISTUS Health Louisiana’s close-knit team that thrives on healing souls and saving lives. Our nurses are making a difference in the lives of patients and their families every day; yours are the hands they hold, yours are the faces they remember. Join us in extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ.