TNA & TASN Joint Convention Highlights

TNA’s Annual Convention began with two great pre-convention sessions on Thursday, October 18, 2012 in Franklin, TN. Participants in the session entitled Green Dots for Nurses: Bystander Training Workshop came away very excited about sharing the skills they learned to take effective bystander action and work with others to support Green Dot’s strategies to eliminate violence one green dot at a time. The APRN session entitled Practicing in the Current Regulatory & Political Environment was well attended and very informative. Participants came away with strategies for moving the practice and profession forward, as well as a better understanding of the latest issues that impact the APRN practice and the how to provide comprehensive quality care to patients.

As the official 2012 TNA & TASN Joint Convention, Creating a Culture of Safety Together, began on Friday, October 19, more than 200 nurses and nursing students convened upon the Cool Springs Marriott Hotel and Convention Center in Franklin, TN. It was great seeing several cars in the parking lot with TNF’s specialty nurse license plate, Nurses Change Lives. Everyone knew the nurses and nursing students had arrived! Convention attendees were awarded a total of 7.0 contact hours for attending some of the best sessions TNA has yet to offer. The offerings included:

- The Value of the Nurse Case Manager as a Collaborative Team Member
- Technology Advances in Patient Care
- Mentoring the Novice Researcher: Peripheral Phlebitis Point Prevalence Study
- Successful High Fidelity Simulation with Fundamentals Students Using Unfolding Scenarios
- Patient and Family-centered Care and Team Collaboration in a High Risk Obstetric Population: Case Studies with Child Life and Nursing
- Workplace Violence in the Hospital
- TNF’s session entitled Opioid and Benzodiazepine Dependence: An American Epidemic

House of Delegates

The 104th House of Delegates opening on Friday included a video greeting from Karen Daley, ANA President and greetings from Brittrney Conley, President of the Tennessee Association of Student Nurses. Lena Patterson, TNA President, recognized the members of the TNA Board of Directors in attendance, as well as Past Presidents in attendance, including Sharon Adkins, Ginna Betts, Laura Beth Brown, Gary Crotty, Frances Edwards, Wanda Hooper, and Peggy Strong. Recognition was given to participants, or those with family members, serving in the Armed Forces. Tommie Norris, TNA Vice President, delivered the Nightingale Tribute and a moment of silence was given in memory of TNA members who had passed away during the past year. Patterson delivered her President’s Address, followed by the TNA Executive Director’s report and Tennessee Board of Nursing Report, both given by Sharon Adkins, TNA’s Executive Director.

Members of the 2013 TNA Board of Directors attending the convention, following the installation of the new Board, on Sunday morning during the final House of Delegates session. They are, from left, Beth Smith, TNA Past President; Margie Gale, District 3 President; Linda Foster, District 4 President; Lena Patterson, TNA President; Billie Sills, TNA President Elect; Brad Harrell, District 1 President; Sharon Bailey, TNA Treasurer; Debra Sullivan, District 15 President; Raycine Brewer, TNA Secretary; Kathleen Jones, District 05 President.

The Treasurer report was given by Sharon Adkins, followed by a report on the Tennessee Nurses Foundation by Janice Harris, Tennessee Nurses Foundation (TNF) President. Mike Harkreader, Executive Director of the Tennessee Professional Assistance Program (TriPAP), gave a report on TriPAP activities, followed by Katherine Pendleton, Chair of the Tennessee Nurses Political Action Committee (TNPAC), who gave a report on the PAC. A report from Laurie Acred-Natelson, TONE Nursing Collaborative Liaison, presented the TONE report, followed by Chris Clarke’s, Tennessee Hospital Association’s Tennessee Center for Patient Safety Senior Vice President and Chair of the Tennessee Center for Nursing, reports for the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA) and the final report for the Tennessee Center for Nursing (TCN).

This is the second year participants have had the pleasure of joining Tom Randles, during TNA’s annual Achievement Awards Luncheon. Randles was our emcee, but in his real job he works as co-anchor for Channel 4’s Evening News, at WSMV in Nashville. Also an accomplished jazz musician, he has now produced four CDs. The Tennessee Nurses...
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Published exclusively by the Tennessee Nurses Foundation and the Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency, Inc.
I was recently challenged to reexamine my own priorities only to discover how out of sync I truly was. What happens when one or more of our priorities requires more of our time than anticipated? What are your priorities; personal time with God, time with family, job, leisure activities, children’s activities, travel, time with colleagues, professional development, and professional activism among others? What motivates you to change your priorities; emergencies, deadlines, peer pressure, fear, motivation to succeed, or personal choice? Quoting Anne Robertson Brown, “Be wise in the use of your time. The question is not how much time do we have? The question is what shall we do with it.”

I have asked you to join us, your state nurses association, Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA). I hope someone else in your local district has had an opportunity to invite you as well. You have been asked to become active in your state nurses association because we do not dare that things are difficult,” Lucius Annaeus Seneca. Your level of action is still up to you. As Robertson Brown, “Be wise in the use of your time. The question is what shall we do with it.”

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Association honored eight individuals and organizations during the luncheon. To those of which were honored, we give a special thanks for the contributions you have made to the nursing profession and to your professional organization, the Tennessee Nurses Association. Photos of the 2012 TNA Achievement Awards are included in this issue.

TNA’s Keynote speaker, Sorrel King, followed the Awards Luncheon. King delivered a thought provoking message entitled Josie’s Story: Family-Centered Approaches to Patient Safety. As founder of the Josie King Foundation, Sorrel is a leading advocate for improving patient safety. Together, with her husband Tony, they have embarked on this journey due to the death of their daughter, Josie, who died as a result of medical errors.

House of Delegates Actions
The House of Delegates opened early Saturday morning and immediately got to work on TNA business. Below is a list of actions taken, followed by a copy of Resolution 2012-01—Support for the Expansion of Medicaid Program.

Reaffirmation:
Resolution #97-01—In support of PeriOperative Registered Nurses
• Resolution #97-02—In Support of the Association of PeriOperative Registered Nurses Statement on RNI First Assistants
• Resolution #02-02—In Support of Tennessee Association of Student Nurses
• Resolution #2007-01—In Support of Cultural Diversity
• Resolution #2007-07—In Support of Proactive Convening and Protection
• Resolution #2007-08—In Support of Integrative Mental Health Services—as amended

Sunset:
• Resolution #2007-03—In Support of Resolving the Crisis in Nursing Education Through Additional Funding for Both Public and Private Schools of Nursing
• Resolution #2007-04—Improving the Lives of Small Children with Food Allergies in Day Cares in the State of Tennessee
• Resolution #2007-05—In Support of Continual Health Insurance Coverage for Uninsured Children in Tennessee

Adopted:
• Resolution #2012-01—Support for the Expansion of Medicaid Program
• Resolution #2012-02—Reducing Obesity in Tennessee as amended
• Resolution #2012-03—Advanced Care Planning Initiative, as amended

The Tennessee Nurses Foundation (TNF)
The Tennessee Nurses Foundation held their Seventh Annual Silent Auction during the TNA Convention. A special thank you goes out to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation Board of Trustees for all you did to make the auction a huge success. The amount raised from the Silent Auction and convention contributions and pledges was over $6,600. TNF’s Sunday morning general session entitled Opioid and Benzodiazepine Dependence: An American Epidemic was very informative.

TNA & TASN Joint Convention Highlights

(Continued from page 1)

TNA Elections and Installation of the 2013 Board of Directors
Election results were announced. Frances, “Billie”, Sills, of Johnson City, was elected President-Elect; Jill Kinch, of Nashville, was elected Vice President; Sharon Bailey, of Maryville, was elected Treasurer. Bethany Andrews, of Hermitage, and Kay Bone, of Kingsport, were elected to the Nominating Committee.

Officers of the 2013-2014 Board of Directors include Lena Patterson, President; Beth Smith, Past President; Francis, “Billie”, Sills, President Elect; Jill Kinch, Vice President; Raycene Brewer, Secretary; Sharon Bailey, Treasurer.

The TNA 2013-2014 Board of Directors also includes the following District Presidents: Brad Harrell, District 1; Billie Phillips, District 2; Margie Gale, District 3; Linda Foster, District 4; Kathleen Jones, District 5; Vacant, District 06; Amy Holder, District 08; Angel Brewer, District 9; Vacant, District 10; Vacant, District 12; Debra Sullivan, District 15

House of Delegates (HOD) session

Beth Smith and Lena Patterson discussing a resolution during HOD session.

Tennessee Nurses Association
Resolution Support for the Expansion of Medicaid Program

Resolution # 2012-01
Adopted: October 20, 2012

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2012, the United States Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act, but also ruled that state expansion of the Medicaid Program should be at the option of the state, and
WHEREAS, TennCare is the State of Tennessee’s Medicaid program which operates under a Section 1115 waiver from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and
WHEREAS, The Bureau of TennCare within the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration is the agency charged with responsibility for administering the TennCare program, and
WHEREAS, approximately 330,000 currently uninsured Tennesseans would be eligible for the Tennessee Medicaid program (TennCare) if the state chooses to expand eligibility to 133% of the Federal Poverty Level, and
WHEREAS, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that the Federal government will bear 100% of the cost of covering people made newly eligible for Medicaid (2014-2066), nearly 93% of the costs of expansion over its first nine years (2014-2022), and assume no less than 99% on a more permanent basis, and
WHEREAS, the reduction of the number of people without health insurance will result in the reduction of state and local costs of hospital, primary care, and mental health services, and
WHEREAS, a decision NOT to expand Medicaid (given changes in the disproportionate share hospital payments formula) will most likely result in many hospitals closing (particularly in rural areas), will increase the burden on Tennesseans requiring acute emergency, or specialty care and eliminate thousands of health care related jobs, and
WHEREAS, as front line health care providers, registered nurses (RNs) are acutely aware of the adverse consequences on the lives of people who do not have access to or cannot afford quality health care, and
WHEREAS, the Tennessee Nurses Association, representing RNs across Tennessee who are dedicated to providing quality, accessible care to all its citizens because it is the JUST and RIGHT thing to do, therefore be it
RESOLVED, the TNA House of Delegates and the TNA Board of Directors reaffirm their commitment to continue to advocate and support the full implementation of the Medicaid expansion program in Tennessee, and be it
RESOLVED, the Tennessee Nurses Association actively participate in activities to enroll eligible Tennesseans in Medicaid and support the health “Navigator” function in the Tennessee Health Insurance Exchange to assist in removing barriers to access to health care in Tennessee, and be it further
RESOLVED, upon adoption, copies of this resolution shall be presented to Governor Bill Haslam, Lt Governor Ron Ramsey, members of the 108th House of Representatives and Senate, collaborative health care partners, and media representatives.

Submitted by the TNA Board of Directors
October 2012

Nursing Students pictured with Sorrel King, TNA’s Keynote speaker.

Tennessee Association of Student Nurses (TASN)
TNA staff and TNA Convention attendees enjoyed having the students join us!
TNA Special Lifetime Achievement Award

Letha Lehman, MS, RN, of Knoxville, received the TNA Special Lifetime Achievement Award. This award recognizes an outstanding TNA member who has made significant contributions to nursing and TNA, continued participation in TNA and nursing, and achieved state and national recognition by the profession. This award is given by the TNA Board of Directors.

TNA Professional Promise Award

Sandra D. Wells, RN of Greenville, received the TNA Professional Promise Award. This annual award recognizes a recent graduate (within first year) and new member of TNA who demonstrates qualities of “professional promise” in the areas of consistent attendance and contributions at the District level; commitment to excellence in nursing practice; and collegial and mentoring relationships.

TNA Awards for Nursing Excellence

This annual award recognizes outstanding performance in multiple areas of nursing practice. Nominees may be selected from the areas of Direct Care, Nursing Education, Nursing Administration, and Advanced Practice Nursing. Selection criteria is specific to the major area of practice, but reflects outstanding performance in these areas: promoting and maintaining excellence in professional practice; commitment to the nursing profession and TNA; contribution to professional development of other nurses (publications, presentations, research); leadership which improves the quality of nursing care (education, administration, etc.); and professional and community service.

Award for Nursing Excellence in Advanced Practice

Jean B. Blackburn, MSN, APN, PMHCNS-BC, of Chattanooga, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Advanced Practice.

TNA Outstanding Employer Award

Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, received the Employer of the Year Award. This award recognizes a health care agency, school of nursing or other employer demonstrating commitment to nurses and nursing excellence. Vanderbilt University Medical Center’s Chief Nursing Officer, Marilyn A. Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, accepted the award on behalf of the medical center.

TNA Outstanding Legislator Award

The Outstanding Legislator Award recognizes an outstanding legislator who has demonstrated support of the TNA legislative agenda and the nursing profession, and who has promoted legislation which enhances adequate and safe nursing care and healthcare for the people of Tennessee. This year TNA presented its 2012 Outstanding Legislator of the Year award to two legislators, Representative Matthew Hill, of Jonesborough, representing House District 7 as well as State Senator Tim Barnes, of Clarksville, representing Senate District 2. Sharon Adkins, TNA’s Executive Director, and Dr. Carole Myers, TNPAC’s Advocacy Award recipient, join Senator Barnes as he is presented the award.

TNPAC Advocacy Award

TNPAC presented its 2012 TNPAC Advocacy Award to two legislators, Representative Matthew Hill, of Jonesborough, representing House District 7 as well as State Senator Tim Barnes, of Clarksville, representing Senate District 2. Sharon Adkins, TNA’s Executive Director, and Dr. Carole Myers, TNPAC’s Advocacy Award recipient, join Senator Barnes as he is presented the award.

TENA Outstanding Contributor for 2012

Marvy S. Bernard, DNP, FNP, MSN, RN, of Arlington, received the John William Runyan Jr. Community Nursing Award, given annually by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center’s College of Nursing. The award is presented each year to a nurse who makes outstanding contributions to the development and promotion of health in the community. This award is not a TNA award, but TNA offers the UT Health Science Center the opportunity to present the award during the TNA Awards Luncheon.

All TNA Achievement Awards Luncheon photos were taken by Katie Williams, TNA Intern. Williams works for TNA creating graphic design projects, including logos and brochures.

The Tennessee Nurse
During the month of July over 500 nurses and other interested individuals participated in a survey distributed by the Tennessee Action Coalition to: identify individuals and organizations interested in being part of the coalition’s efforts and to determine where Tennessee is in relationship to each of the recommendations included in the Future of Nursing report from the Institute of Medicine (see Table 1). Chairman of the board of directors of the Tennessee Action Coalition, Dr. Victoria Niederhauser, recently said, “We are grateful to the nurses and others from across the state who participated in the survey. Because of their efforts, we have necessary information to help us in strategic planning and meeting our goal of growing the coalition so we can begin the important work of facilitating important changes in Tennessee. These changes will help us improve the health of Tennesseans through improved health care”.

Of the 504 respondents, 90% were nurses. The mean age of respondents was 51 years and the mean years in nursing practice was 24 years. The majority (89%) practice full-time in nursing (6% part-time, 2% nursing students, 3% not working). Geographic distribution of respondents was: 37% East, 32% Middle, and 28% West. The profile of survey respondents differs from the profile of all licensed registered nurses in the state in several significant ways: a higher percentage of APRNs, educators, and administrators and those with advanced degrees participated in the survey.

Survey respondents were asked to rate the importance (not important, less important, somewhat important, very important, and most important) of the eight recommendations from the Institute of Medicine, as well as rate the ease to implement (not easy, less easy, somewhat easy, very easy, and most easy) the recommendation. As shown in Table 2 recommendations related to scope of practice (Recommendation #1), increased leadership opportunities (#2), and lifelong learning (#6) were rated highest in importance. Survey respondents rated doubling the number of nurses with doctorates by 2020 (#5), addressing scope of practice (#1), and increasing the proportion of nurses with a baccalaureate degree to 80% by 2020 (#4) as the least easy to implement. Survey respondents were overwhelmingly interested in being involved with the Tennessee Action Coalition.

Survey results are instrumental in the development of a strategic plan for the Tennessee Action Coalition and ongoing work. The coalition board of directors has elected to create Education, Leadership, and Practice Work Groups. These work groups will be commissioned in early 2013 to facilitate Tennessee-specific initiatives to advance priority IOM recommendations. The Tennessee Action Coalition will serve as a convener, coordinator, and communicator and work to garner necessary resources and build an infrastructure for successful implementation. Success depends on the engagement of a broad group of stakeholders, including nursing organizations and nurses from across the state.

Questions about the survey or the Tennessee Action Coalition and requests for additional survey results should be directed to Carole R. Myers, Nursing Lead for the Tennessee Action Coalition (cmyers9@utk.edu).

### Table 1: Future of Nursing Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Importance of Recommendation:</th>
<th>Ease to Implement:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased opportunities for nurses to collaborate and lead efforts to improve health of Tennessee residents</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residency programs</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double the number of nurses with a doctorate by 2020</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare and enable nurses to lead change in all environments to advance health</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build a mechanism for the collection and analysis of inter-professional healthcare workforce data</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Tennessee Action Coalition and ongoing work. The coalition board of directors has elected to create Education, Leadership, and Practice Work Groups. These work groups will be commissioned in early 2013 to facilitate Tennessee-specific initiatives to advance priority IOM recommendations. The Tennessee Action Coalition will serve as a convener, coordinator, and communicator and work to garner necessary resources and build an infrastructure for successful implementation. Success depends on the engagement of a broad group of stakeholders, including nursing organizations and nurses from across the state.

Questions about the survey or the Tennessee Action Coalition and requests for additional survey results should be directed to Carole R. Myers, Nursing Lead for the Tennessee Action Coalition (cmyers9@utk.edu).

### Table 2: Selected Survey Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IOM Recommendation</th>
<th>Importance of Recommendation: Very Important or Important (# of respondents)</th>
<th>Ease to Implement: Not Easy or Less Easy (# of respondents)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Scope of practice</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Increased leadership opportunities</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Residency programs</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. 80% BSN by 2020</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Double number of nurses with doctorates</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Lifelong learning</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Prepare and enable nurses to lead</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Workforce data</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Tennessee Action Coalition is coordinated by AARP Tennessee and The University of Tennessee, Knoxville College of Nursing. The Tennessee Action Coalition has been convened to advance the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action, organized by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in collaboration with AARP and the AARP Foundation.
While we are gearing up for a busy legislative session, we also are busy planning for the 2013 TNA Legislative Summit and Nurses Day on the Hill, scheduled for April 9, 2013, at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. This event will allow students and nurses the opportunity to visit with legislators while in session and to experience on site and firsthand the legislative process. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. Additional information on the summit is available on TNA's website at www.tnaonline.org.

2012 ELECTION RESULTS
TENNESSEE STATE SENATE WINNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>TENNESSEE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WINNERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jon Lundberg (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tony Shipley (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Timothy Hill (R)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kent Williams (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>David Hawk (R)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>James (Micah) Van Huss (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Matthew Hill (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Art Swann (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mike Harrison (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tilman Goins (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Jeremy Faison (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dale Carr (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Gloria Johnson (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Ryan Haynes (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Joe Armstrong (D)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Bill Dunn (R)</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Andrew Farmer (R)</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Steve Hall (R)</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Harry Brooks (R)</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Bob Ramsey (R)</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Jimmy Mathlock (R)</td>
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<td>Eric Watson (R)</td>
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<td>John Forgety (R)</td>
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<td>Kevin Brooks (R)</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Cameron Sexton (R)</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Gerald McCormick (R)</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Richard Floyd (R)</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>JoAnne Favors (D)</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Mike Carter (R)</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Vince Dean (R)</td>
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<td>Ron Travis (R)</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Kent Calfee (R)</td>
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<td>Jon DeBerry (R)</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Dennis “Coach” Roach (R)</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Dawn White (R)</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>Kelly T. Keisling (R)</td>
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<td>David Alexander (R)</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Terri Lynn Weaver (R)</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>John Mark Windle (R)</td>
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<td>42</td>
<td>Ryan Williams (R)</td>
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<td>43</td>
<td>Charles Curtiss (D)</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>William Lambert (R)</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>Courtney Rodgers (R)</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>Mark Pody (R)</td>
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<td>Judd Matheny (R)</td>
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<td>Joe Carr (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Mike Spars (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Bo Mitchell (R)</td>
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</table>
NASHVILLE, TN – The Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA) officially announced its plans to offer discount drug cards to nurses and their patients through the United Networks of America (UNA) Free Drug Card Program. The program is free to all residents and provides savings of up to 75% on prescription drugs at over 56,000 regional and national pharmacies. There are no restrictions to membership, no income requirements, no age limitations and no applications to fill out.

The goal of the new program is to provide additional card distribution channels and create awareness so that all Tennessee nurses and their patients will have access to this prescription assistance program. As the largest segment of the healthcare workforce, nurses are in the best position to distribute this benefit to the residents of Tennessee. Thus, supporting part of TNAs mission of assuring a healthier Tennessee.

The TNA prescription assistance program was launched to the help uninsured and underinsured afford their prescription medications. The program, however, can also be used by people who have health insurance coverage with no prescription benefits, which is common in many health savings accounts (HSA) and high deductible health plans. Additionally, people who have prescription coverage can use this program for non-covered drugs.

Residents can download a free card, locate a participating pharmacy and search drug pricing at multiple pharmacies for an even greater savings at www.tnaonline.org.

LPN Connect – Online Service Especially for LPNs

The Tennessee Nurses Association’s special online subscription service LPNConnect continues to grow! This product for Tennessee’s Licensed Practical Nurses includes online services to help LPNs stay informed on issues related to their nursing practice and network with other LPNs across the state.

LPNConnect offers subscribers the following benefits and services:

- Access to an LPN only password protected area on the TNA website at www.tnaonline.org that contains articles and other information of interest.
- An LPN Listserv exclusively for use by LPNConnect subscribers to communicate with other LPN subscribers by email. Topics of discussion on the LPNConnect Listserv may include questions on nursing practice, the announcement of meetings and events of interest to LPNs.

• A monthly LPNConnect newsletter containing nursing related news.
• Webpages within the protected LPN area filled with other information of interest to LPNs in Tennessee, including important legislative information and updates on health policy development.

Subscriptions to LPNConnect are available for only $25 per year and are open to any LPN with a current Tennessee nursing license.

To subscribe, visit www.tnaonline.org and click the LPNConnect link on the left on the home page. You will purchase your subscription and pay online with a credit or debit card through a secure form. When your payment is processed, you will receive an email with instructions on registering for your account login and password.

We need your suggestions for additional content to include in the LPNConnect area! Please send your suggestions and feedback to tna@tnaonline.org.

Tennessee Nurses Association Launches Free Drug Card Program to Provide Prescription Assistance to Nurses and Patients

Nearby one-half of the proceeds from the sale of the specialty nurse license plate, Nurses Change Lives, go to help support Tennessee Nurses Foundation initiatives for nurses. Visit www.tnaonline.org for details on TNF programs.

Purchase the Specialty Nurse License Plate Today at your local County Court Clerk’s Office!

- TNF License Plate Car magnets are now on sale! Call 615.254.0350. S.L.O. each plus shipping.
- Great gift idea for nursing students, colleagues, and friends. Visit www.tnaonline.org for details.

2013 TNA Legislative Summit
April 9, 2013
War Memorial Auditorium
Nashville, Tennessee

Make plans now to attend this special event designed for nurses and nursing students to become more involved in the legislative process!

Visit www.tnaonline.org for details

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nursingALD.com

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At our annual convention meeting, the TPA Committee of the Tennessee Nurses Association discusses at great length the tremendous importance of 100% membership in TNA for the advanced practice registered nurses in order to achieve our common objectives of securing nursing’s preferred future of respect, visibility, and policy successes for our profession.

Thus, the TPA committee would like to recognize and thank those APRNs supporting the Tennessee Nurses Association and our professional practice by their membership in TNA.

This list is current as of October 31, 2012.
The University of Tennessee at Martin, located in Northwest Tennessee, is seeking to fill the Chair of the Department of Nursing and a Lecturer of Nursing position for an NLNAC accredited BSN program.

**Position:** Chair position

**Closing Date:** Review of applications will begin February 1, 2013 and continue until position is filled.

**Application:** Interested persons must apply electronically at: www.utm.edu/nursing

**Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree in nursing with preferred teaching experience in a baccalaureate nursing program.

**Lecturer of nursing position** is a full-time, 9 month non-tenure-track term appointment to teach Medical-Surgical Nursing. Applicants must have a master's degree in nursing and an earned doctorate in nursing or related field, with teaching and administrative experience in a baccalaureate nursing program.

**Position:** Chair position is a full-time, 12 month tenure-track position. Applicants must have a master’s degree in nursing and an earned doctorate in nursing or related field, with teaching and administrative experience in a baccalaureate nursing program.

**Application:** Interested persons must apply electronically at: http://www.utm.edu/departments/personnel/fac_emp.php.

**Qualifications:** Please see full position statement at www.utm.edu/nursing

**Closing Date:** Review of applications will begin February 1, 2013 and continue until position is filled.

UT Martin is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA employer institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services.
The first of the eight recommendations in the Future of Nursing report developed by the Institute of Medicine is: Assurance that nurses are able to practice to the full extent of their education, training, and experience. This means that the practice of health professionals primarily rests with the states. This authority is derived from the responsibility to protect the public health.

Like most states, Tennessee is challenged to address competing priorities and maintain a balanced budget. Faced with a persistent recession, a shortage of needed primary care providers, and major challenges related to health and health care, we must be resourceful and creative in addressing the serious and growing problems we face. Consistent with the message of the Tennessee Nurse Practice Act, we must contemplate how nurses can be better utilized to improve access to high-quality, patient-centered care. In Tennessee, a priority is removing barriers that prevent Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), including Nurse Practitioners (NPs), Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs), Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs), and Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs), from practicing to the full extent of their education, training, and experience, as APRNs do in other states effectively and efficiently.

Background
Practice is regulated in accordance with state statutes and rules established by administrative rules. The primary aim of the regulation of APRNs and other health professional is the protection of the public. This protection is achieved by defining the standards of practice and formulating the rules associated with the particular profession. This assurance is evidenced by a professional license. Licensure demonstrates the minimal safety and competency of the licensed profession. The rules and regulations are enacted by the Tennessee General Assembly (also referred to as the Legislature). The Tennessee Board of Nursing, following the laws and rules set by the Legislature, is the entity charged with adopting and enforcing the rules associated with statutes pertaining to the practice of nursing. The governing body that oversees all nursing practice is commonly referred to as the Tennessee Nurse Practice Act. The Tennessee Nurse Practice Act and the Board of Nursing rules can be accessed via the TNA online website: www.tnaonline.org.

In Tennessee, consistent with a recommendation of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) and Nurse Practitioners (NPs) have recently passed legislation that allow APRNs to practice independently. The Tennessee Nurse Practice Act, in any mandated form, should not be a state requirement. State Boards of Nursing should have sole authority to determine who may practice as a nurse practitioner. NPs are already able to practice independently in Tennessee, out dated regulations prevent APRNs from practicing to the full extent of their education, training, and experience, as APRNs do in other states and have done safely and effectively for years.

APRNs have a compelling track record of providing quality and cost-effective care. Reviews of studies of patients cared for by MDs and NPs have demonstrated comparable outcomes and health care cost savings. A number of studies has established criteria for requiring MP supervision of APRNs. Numerous studies have demonstrated cost savings associated with care delivered by NPs. These savings are a result of both lower reimbursement rates and practice patterns. NPs have a rich legacy of providing care to vulnerable and underserved populations.

Challenging the Status Quo
The absence of demonstrated risks or harm to the public negates the need to regulate the scope of practice as it is done in Tennessee. In the case of the unnecessary and unsupported restrictive regulation of APRN practice in Tennessee and attempts to further extend restrictions, motives and consequences must be scrutinized and appropriately challenged. The current rules and regulations pertaining to physician supervision of APRNs appear to be less about protecting the public’s health than preserving a competitive advantage for physicians. Supervision is an anti-competitive tactic that has unward consequences. These include decreased access, delays in care, duplication of services and added expenses. Each of these can lead to poorer health outcomes and increased costs.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has an important role in deliberations related to APRN scope of practice. The FTC is an independent, bipartisan agency that reports directly to Congress. The mission of the FTC is to protect consumers and competition by fostering fair options and protect consumers. The FTC typically gets involved in proposed legislation related to the regulation of health care practitioners and reviews upon a request from a state legislator in the state where a bill is pending.

The basis of an FTC review is tied to competition, not the scope of practice (e.g., APRN). This is an important distinction. Licensure regulations deal with individuals whereas the FTC is concerned with preserving and, when appropriate, expanding choices for consumers and maintaining competition marketplace. The FTC advocates for consumers by considering options available especially to consumers who face access and cost challenges, empowering the quality of care, and relying heavily on empirical data.

The Tennessee Nurse Practice Act needs to be updated to allow APRNs to practice independent of legislated MP supervision. APRNs need full prescriptive authority so they can write needed scripts for all their patients. However dealing with state legal and regulatory stipulations pertaining to APRN scope of practice will not solve all the problems. Scope of practice is also impacted by federal and institutional policy. One example of another significant problem is the practices of private insurance companies concerning credentialing and reimbursement Tennessee require physician supervision. There are three states that require supervision, like Tennessee, and have shortened the burden of the Board of Nursing not being the sole authority regulating nursing practice. In these states authority is shared with the Board of Medicine. The ongoing opposition to modernizing scope of practice regulations among other Southern states in Tennessee are contrary to the evidence and experiences in other states, and misdirected given the challenges in Tennessee relate to health and health care. A study has determined that Tennessee rules and regulations are exacerbating deficiencies in access to care which ultimately impacts health status. In a resource constrained state such as Tennessee, where citizen’s health and the economy are in dire condition and the state ranks 39th out of 51 (the 50 states and the District of Columbia) according to America’s Health Rankings, it makes sense to leave a resource such as APRNs underutilized.

We have a shortage of primary care providers in Tennessee, particularly those delivering care to underserved populations in both rural and urban settings. This shortage will worsen when approximately 650,000 Tennesseans will be newly eligible for health care by 2014 under the Medicaid expansion (including approximately 300,000 Tennesseans if the state opts to participate in the Medicaid expansion) and health insurance exchanges (approximately 350,000 Tennesseans are estimated to be eligible). However in Tennessee, outdated regulations prevent APRNs from practicing to the full extent of their education, training, and experience, as APRNs do in other states and have done safely and effectively for years.

APRNs have a compelling track record of providing quality and cost-effective care. Reviews of studies of patients cared for by MDs and NPs have demonstrated comparable outcomes and health care cost savings. A number of studies has established criteria for requiring MP supervision of APRNs. Numerous studies have demonstrated cost savings associated with care delivered by NPs. These savings are a result of both lower reimbursement rates and practice patterns. NPs have a rich legacy of providing care to vulnerable and underserved populations.

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“Nurses Leading to the Future”
2013 TNF Scholarly Writing Contest

The Tennessee Nurses Foundation is sponsoring a scholarly writing contest for TNA members. A $1,000 award will be presented to the winner as part of the celebration of Nurses Week 2013.

Criteria:
1. Registered Nurse
2. Contest applicant must have been a continuous member of TNA for at least one year prior to entering the contest
3. Paper is publishable as submitted.

Manuscript requirements:
1) Introduction: provide adequate foundation for the body of the paper and will include a purpose statement for the paper
2) Body of the Paper: will address one of the following
   • Nursing research – how to use research in daily practice supported by an example and explanation of how you have used research in your daily practice.
   • The use of leadership in daily practice supported by an example and explanation of how you have either used or experienced a particular leadership style in your daily practice

TFN Report
by Janice Harris, EdS, MSN, RN

WOW! That is probably the best word to describe this year’s convention. The 2012 TNF Silent Auction was one of the best ever. Between the Silent Auction and personal donations, participants contributed more than $6,000 dollars to the support of the various programs offered by the Foundation.

Our thanks go to Mike Harkreader, MS, RN, CARN and Jason Carter, PharmD, for their presentation, Opioid and Benzodiazepine Dependence: An American Epidemic, offered during TNF’s general session. Being both informative and thought provoking, this topic is a major issue in today’s healthcare dilemma. Many of the points made during the presentation, touch each of us as nurses in our various communities.

As we move into the winter months and opportunities present themselves, think of the Tennessee Nurses Foundation. Purchase a specialty license plate, Honor a Nurse, make a donation, the Tennessee Nurses Foundation, or apply for a research grant, look at all the opportunities available to you through the Foundation as a member of the Tennessee Nurses Association. Go to www.tnaonline.org to explore TNF’s program initiatives and if you haven’t joined TNA yet; you can do that securely on the TNA site as well.

As the President of the Tennessee Nurses Foundation, I wish each and every nurse and their families a happy and safe holiday season.

South College
School of Nursing
Announces
New RN/BSN Online Nursing Program

Applications are currently being accepted for the RN/BSN online nursing program at South College, Knoxville, TN. Classes will require students to be on site twice during each quarter. Time for completion of the program will depend on the academic history of each applicant. Nursing major courses may be completed in one year. Challenge opportunities are available for selected courses. Additional general education or other courses are required depending on courses previously taken. For more information please contact the South College Admissions Office at 865-251-1830. Classes are scheduled to begin in January 2013 pending enrollment.

General Information

The TNF RN to BSN/MSN Scholarship is an educational scholarship for eligible Registered Nurses in the State of Tennessee who are continuing their education to attain a BSN or first MSN and have had continuous membership in the Tennessee Nurses Association for at least one year prior to the grant application. This scholarship is provided through TNF's fundraising programs. The scholarship is awarded once a year in the amount of $1,000.

All requests for scholarships shall be made to the Tennessee Nurses Foundation Scholarship Program. Application forms are available from the Tennessee Nurses Foundation, or you can download the forms as a PDF file from the BSN/MSN program application link at TNA's website, www.tnaonline.org. Click Tennessee Nurses Foundation on the home page from the list on the left and then click TNF Initiatives. Approval for granting scholarships shall rest with the Tennessee Nurses Foundation Board of Trustees. Applicants must complete the application, have satisfactory references and agree to the terms of this scholarship request. The number of scholarships will be determined by the estimated need qualifications of the individual applicants and the amount of funds available. A personal interview with the applicant may be requested by the Tennessee Nurses Foundation Board of Trustees.

The TNF RN to BSN/MSN Scholarship is given once each year in the amount of $1,000 and is intended to support further nursing academic achievement for nurses in an accredited BSN/MSN program in the State of Tennessee. Applications are reviewed once each year. The submission deadline date is November 1, 2012.
Honor A Nurse

Nursing is a calling, a way of life. Nurses rely on each other for the synergistic effect of teamwork in our efforts of care giving. It is appropriate that we honor those colleagues that have made an impact in our lives and the lives of others.

We honor you...

Judy Hines, RN
A graduate since 1961, Judy has been involved in all phases of nursing but mostly, since 1999, as a medical missionary to Ecuador, South America. Judy is a Charter Member of the Florida College Health Nurses Association and in 2009 she became an Honored Woman of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Tennessee. Honored by Charles Randall Hines.

Arleen M. Palmer, RN
Arleen M. Palmer is a retired Registered Nurse who served patients in hospitals and clinics for the first two decades of her career. She then served high school students, and their families, as a school nurse/teacher for the second two decades of her career. At 89 years old, Mrs. Palmer continues to advocate for affordable, quality health care for people of all ages. Honored by Shelley Moore, MSN, RN, PhD(c)

Visit TNF at www.tnaonline.org for complete information on the Honorees and the Honor A Nurse program.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville College of Nursing
Academic Programs to Build or Enhance Your Nursing Career

The University of Tennessee Knoxville, College of Nursing offers unique opportunities for undergraduate and graduate education in nursing. As the state’s flagship, research–intensive university, students have access to state-of-the-art academic resources, research opportunities, and a variety of clinical practice sites. The BSN and MSN programs are fully approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Online offerings increase accessibility of selected degree programs.

Traditional BSN
• Two years of lower division prerequisite science and humanities courses
• Two years of upper division nursing major courses

Accelerated BSN for Students with a College Degree in Another Field
• Twelve month full-time program (3 semesters) • Minimal prerequisites

RN-BSN Completion Program Offered Primarily Online
• Online program with limited on-site activities • Can be completed in one calendar year

MSN Program Specialties
• Family Nurse Practitioner • Pediatric Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist • Nursing Administration
• Nurse Specialist • Nurse Anesthesia • Global Disaster Nursing

Doctoral Programs Offered Primarily Online
• Online program with limited on-site activities • Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD) • Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

For more information visit The University of Tennessee, Knoxville College of Nursing website at http://www.nursing.utk.edu/ or contact the Student Services office at (865) 974-7606.

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services.
Member News

Tami Wyatt, PhD, RN, CN, Associate Professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee has been named an Academy of Nursing Education Fellow, part of the National League of Nursing’s Academy of Nursing Education. Wyatt was one of 32 nursing educators to be selected this year. She is the first of the University of TN at Knoxville, College of Nursing’s professors to be named a fellow.

Norma J. Lester, MSN, RN, CDIN, CLNC, of Memphis appointed to state Registry of Election Finance. Governor Bill Haslam appointed Norma J. Lester of Memphis, a retired nurse and Democratic member of the Shelby County Election Commission, to the state board that administers Tennessee campaign finance and ethics laws. She fills a seat on the six-member Registry of Election Finance that has been vacant since April 2011, for a term that runs through 2016.

District News

District 5 News: Zaida Denise Forestier, Ph.D, RN, CNS was given the District 5 Outstanding Member Award for her dedication to, and enthusiasm for nursing. She was presented her award at the October 23, 2012 District 5 meeting by TNA’s President-Elect, Billie Sills.

District 3


Member News

December 2012, January, February 2013

New/Reinstated Members

District 1


District 2


District 3

Zaida Denise Forestier, Ph.D, RN, CNS was given the District 5 Outstanding Member Award for her dedication to, and enthusiasm for nursing. She was presented her award at the October 23, 2012 District 5 meeting by TNA’s President-Elect, Billie Sills.

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Offered in a hybrid format combining online study with on-campus classes one Friday evening/Saturday per month

RN-to-BSN
New for Fall 2013 - Complete your bachelor's degree in as little as 16 months with most courses online

BELMONT UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING
EDUCATING NURSES FOR OVER 40 YEARS
WWW.BELMONT.EDU/GRADNURSING

Zaida Denise Forestier, Ph.D, RN, CNS was given the District 5 Outstanding Member Award for her dedication to, and enthusiasm for nursing. She was presented her award at the October 23, 2012 District 5 meeting by TNA’s President-Elect, Billie Sills.

District 3

Tono Arcega Ma. Rosella, Roderic L. Armstrong, Mary Elizabeth Bacigalupo, Nikki G. Baldi, Lettici...
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TNA also has Payroll Deduction Dues plans set up at the: Regional Medical Center – Memphis @ $11.59 per pay period

American Nurses Association/Tennessee Nurses Association Membership – It’s Your Privilege!

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Part Of Your ANA/TNA Dues Are Tax Deductible!

You are allowed to deduct, as a professional/business expense, the percentage of dues that are NOT used by ANA or by TNA for political activities such as lobbying at the legislature. In 2012, the non-deductible percentage for ANA’s portion of the dues is 22.26%. The non-deductible percentage for TNA’s portion of the dues is 22.8%.

Deductible Amounts

Full ANA/TNA: $278 @ 54.94% = deduction $152.73
Reduced ANA/TNA: $139 @ 54.94% = deduction $76.36
State-Only: $190 @ 77.2% = deduction $146.68

TNA Credit Card

Air travel? Check. Cash back? Check. Cool merchandise? Check. Request the credit card that lets you earn points on your purchases and choose your rewards. The Tennessee Nurses Association Platinum Plus® Visa® card with WorldPoints® rewards provides you with many rewards options. Plus, a contribution is made to TNA with each newly opened and activated account.

For information about rates, fees, other costs and benefits associated with the use of this credit card, or to apply, call (800) 932-2775 and mention priority code VABB75. Or, visit www.tnaonline.org, click on Join TNA, and then Member Benefits and look for the Bank of America information and click to apply online. This credit card program is issued and administered by FIA Card Services, N.A.
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