

WYOMING NURSE

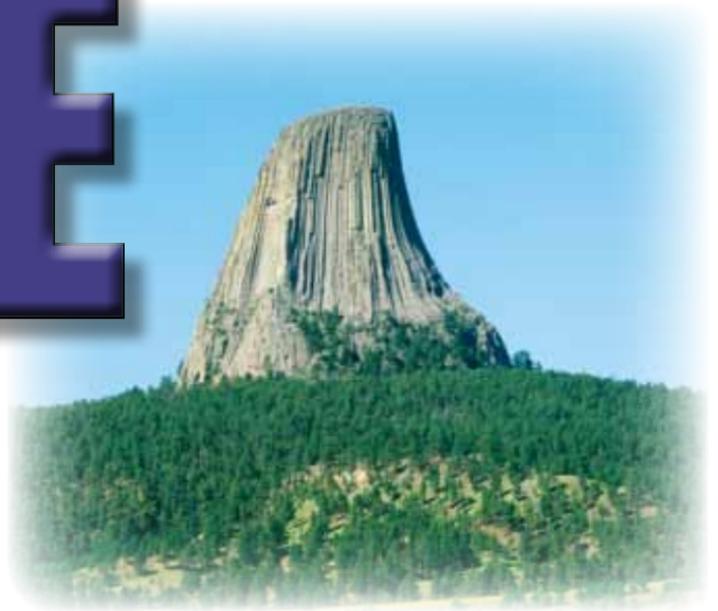
The Official Publication of The Wyoming Nurses Association



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December 2012, January, February 2013



WNA Nurses Day at the Legislature

Little America, Cheyenne, Wyoming
January 24-25, 2013

“Health Care Legislation: What does it mean to me?”

For more information and to register, see pages 4 & 5.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lisa Horton, MSN, RN

I want to begin by saying thank you for electing me as your new President of Wyoming Nurses Association. What an honor it is to be part of such a pro-active organization like WNA. Never in my wildest dreams when I attended my first WNA meeting in Cheyenne almost 10 years ago did I think I would someday become President. I can still recall hiding behind the skirt of Faith Jones, WNA Past President, as she moved around the banquet room talking to all the legislators and fellow Nursing Leaders in the state about the issues that we were all facing in healthcare. It seems like just yesterday. Now I have the honor of following in her footsteps. I would like to thank Faith for her many years of service to WNA. She has served many years for the organization and will remain an



Lisa Horton, MSN, RN

active role by serving as the past president. Faith has also recently been elected to the ANA.

WNA continues to be a viable and successful organization because of all the wonderful volunteers we have. Our executive committee consists of 6 elected officers; we have 11 district presidents, 9 committee chairs, an executive director and a lobbyist. This is a pretty amazing group of individuals located all around the State of Wyoming. Tobi Moore continues to serve as the Executive Director for WNA, handling all of our business needs from Michigan. Tobi is a true asset to this organization. Toni Decklever remains as our lobbyist out of Cheyenne. Our elected officers for the 2012-2013 year are as follows:

Kathy Luzmoor, MS, RN, ANCC serves as your Vice-President. Kathy is a member of District 6 and is an instructor of nursing at Western Wyoming Community College in Rock Springs, kluzmoor@sweatwaterhsa.com.

President Elect is Anne Rage, BSN, RN. Anne is a member of District 10 and is the Director of Nursing at Campbell County Memorial Hospital in Gillette, anne.raga@ccmh.net.

The Secretary is Jennifer Jones, MSN, RN. Jennifer is a District 16 member and works as a ER nurse and nursing informatics at West Park Hospital in Cody. jjones@directairnet.com

Vickie Winney has been elected as the Treasurer. Vickie works at Eastern Wyoming College.

Faith Jones, MSN, RN will serve as the Past President, fjones@bresnan.net.

I will serve as the President Elect for the next two years. I am a member of District 16 and work as the Clinic Director at Powell Valley Healthcare, lhorton@pvhc.org.

We currently have 11 district presidents in the state. Two of these positions are currently open. District 14 in the Lander/Riverton area and District 15 in the Torrington area are looking for individuals wanting to get involved in WNA. If anyone is interested in filling those positions please let anyone on the board know.

The month of November brought the board of directors together to discuss the 2012 Strategic Plan in Casper. Hours of discussion ensued discussing organizational goals and actions to achieve those goals. The following goals were developed for the year. WNA will:

1. Enhance organizational viability
2. Promote development of nursing leaders
3. Lead in legislation and health policy
4. Advance the professional development of nurses
5. Influence workforce initiatives

Please stop by the WNA website, www.wyonurse.org to review in detail the strategic plan.

Mark your calendars for the next WNA Convention. Nurses Day at the Legislature will be held in Cheyenne at Little America January 24-25th. Online registration is available.

My personal goal for WNA in the upcoming year is to increase participation from front line nurses. I want to hear the issues and concerns from those working directly with patients and their families. I am interested in what is working and not working in various clinical areas. I look forward to hearing ideas that nurses from all over this great state of Wyoming have for legislative issues. Please email me with any question and/or concerns. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing all of you in Cheyenne in January.

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LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Wyoming Legislative Update

**Toni Decklever, MA, RN
WNA Lobbyist**



Tony Decklever

Now that the election is over and our legislative leadership has been decided, there is much work to be done in the Healthcare system. The Labor Health Social Services (LHSS) Committee met in Casper in November and heard many reports and received a great deal of information regarding the Medicaid program. Several pieces of legislation were drafted to be further discussed at the next committee meeting.

Nurses across the state are also concerned about Medicaid and the effects that budget reductions will cause for their patients. The Governor has charged all departments in our state to cut 8% from their budgets. Because of this, the potential for entire program cuts is very real and even if the program itself is not cut, there will be cuts to the funding of the program.

The Department of Health put together a report that outlines options for cost savings. This report can be found on the Wyoming Department of Health website. The committee felt that the concept of managed care has a lot of potential and have asked for draft legislation in this area. This will be looked at further at the December LHSS meeting.

Draft pieces of legislation were reviewed, discussed and amended. All drafts will be worked on again at the next meeting with the exception of one bill. The bill that was voted to be introduced is the Public Health Nursing bill.

Public Health Nursing

Dr. Braun, State Health Officer at the Dept. of Health, has been going around state visiting public health departments. She has been receiving input regarding the problems when county and state employees are working in the same office. There have been problems in the past with this system because of supervisor and policy differences for a nurse employed by the county vs. a nurse employed by the state.

This bill would allow the state to give the county their share of money and the county would operate the public health nursing program themselves. An amendment was made to the bill to make the effective date 2014 and the Dept. of Health has been charged to do more research regarding the impact of this legislation. They are to report their findings at the December committee meeting.

Other bills that will be decided upon at the December meeting are:

- **Interstate sales of health insurance
- **Health insurance exchange program
- **Medicaid Expansion
- **Medicaid Waivers policies
- **Medicaid eligibility
- **Medicaid benefit recovery
- **Hospital Reporting
- **Child protection placement orders
- **Hospitalization of mentally ill persons

To review any of the draft legislation, go to the Wyoming State Legislature website: <http://legisweb.state.wy.us>

The next meeting of the Labor Health and Social Services committee will meet in Cheyenne on December 13th and 14th. Committee meetings are open meetings that anyone can attend. The agenda will be posted on the Wyoming Legislature Website when it is formulated. WNA members are encouraged to attend these meetings in order to provide information to the LHSS committee. For more information or if you have questions, please contact Toni Decklever at tonisrn@gmail.com

NURSES!! Legislation DOES Affect You!!!

**Toni Decklever, MA, RN
WNA Lobbyist**

Though several pieces of legislation will come out the Labor Health and Social Service Committee, one bill in particular involves the Public Health Nurses again. The legislation that was moved forward is giving counties the option of making all of their public health nurses county nurses. The county would receive money from the state that was allocated to pay for the nurses that are currently state employees. In essence—the nurses in the county that are now employed by the state, would be employees of the county.

Employee safety has been a concern for many healthcare workers. The Hospital Association has indicated they will be looking at legislation addressing this issue, especially in the area of assaults on healthcare professionals.

Since staffing seems to be an issue in many facilities, there will be another attempt at making Wyoming become part of the Interstate Compact. This topic stirs up a lot of discussion between nurses and corporate. Some of the issues surrounding this are in regards to the background check—which is currently not required in some states, and the decrease of revenue from licence fees.

Your voice counts and we hope to hear from many of you regarding these issues!

Labor Health and Social Service Committee Assignments Announced

Senate:

Charles Scott, Casper, Chairman;
Jim L. Anderson, Casper;
Bernadine Craft, Rock Springs;
Leslie Nutting, Cheyenne;
R. Ray Peterson, Cowley.

House:

Elaine Harvey, Lovell, Chairman;
Eric Barlow, Gillette;
Kathy Coleman, Sheridan;
Lee Filer, Cheyenne;
Matt Greene, Laramie;
Norine Kasperik, Gillette;
Tom Reeder, Casper;
Mary Throne, Cheyenne;
Sue Wilson, Cheyenne.

Happy Holidays & Happy New Year!



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Nurse Practitioner (Ambulatory Care)

The Cheyenne VA Medical Center is seeking a full-time, benefited **Nurse Practitioner** to provide **primary care at the Cheyenne VAMC, including the Women's Clinic**. Must be a U.S. citizen and licensed in a state, territory, or commonwealth of the United States or in the District of Columbia. The VA offers excellent benefits. Salary is negotiable depending on experience.

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For more information contact
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WNA Nurses Day at the Legislature

Little America, Cheyenne, Wyoming
January 24-25, 2013

“Health Care Legislation: What does it mean to me?”

Thursday, January 24, 2013

8:30–9:00 am	Registration
9:00–9:15 am	Welcome and Introductions
9:15–10:15 am	National Perspectives.... Workplace safety! What does it mean to the nurses at the bedside? Staffing issues–Would an Interstate Compact make a difference?
10:15–10:30 am	BREAK
10:30–11:30 am	Wyoming Perspectives... Staffing Issues–Would an Interstate Compact made a difference?
11:30–12:15 pm	2013 Legislative Bills–What do they mean to me?
12:15–1:30 pm	Lunch with Labor, Health & Social Services Committee
1:30–1:45 pm	Orientation to Capitol Visit
2:00–4:00 pm	Capitol Visit

Friday, January 25, 2013

7:00–8:00 am	NEW to Nurses Day! Eggs, Bacon and Bills–Breakfast with the Legislators
8:00–9:15 am	Medical Homes in Wyoming–What are they? Where are they? How do they provide access and quality medical care to the citizens of Wyoming?
9:15–9:30 am	BREAK
9:30–10:00am	Update on status of Wyoming Medicaid Expansion and Insurance Exchanges
10:00–10:30 am	Workgroup Breakout Sessions Topics will be decided based on current legislative issues. Discussion will be held to establish WNA’s legislative agenda.
10:30–11:00 am	Presentation of Workgroups
11:00 am	Wrap-up and evaluations

WNA Nurses Day continued from page 4



HOTEL RESERVATIONS

For your convenience, a block of rooms have been reserved at:

Little America Hotel

2800 West Lincolnway, Cheyenne, Wyoming

To make reservations call **800-445-6945** and ask for the Wyoming Nurses Association group rate.

The group rate is \$99 for king and \$109 double.

Reservations need to be made prior to **December 24, 2012** to receive the group rate.

Register NOW!

2013 LEGISLATIVE DAYS	WNA Member Both Days	WNA Member One Day	Non-Member Both Days	Non-Member One Day	Student Nurse** Both Days	Student Nurse** One Day
By January 9, 2013	\$150	\$100	\$175	\$125	\$85	\$75
After January 9, 2013	\$175	\$125	\$200	\$150	\$110	\$100

If one day only please circle which day? Thursday or Friday

PLEASE circle the amount above you are enclosing with your registration.

Name	
Address	City/St/Zip
Telephone	Email

**** Student Nurse registration rate is for pre licensure nursing degree only. If you are a student who is working toward an advance degree you must register as either a WNA or Non Member.**

******A full refund, less a \$25 processing fee, will be made if request is made at least 72 hours prior to the conference. WNA cannot be held responsible for adverse weather conditions.**

Visit the WNA website www.wyonurse.org and register online!

SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

Wyoming Nurses Association, 2816 Dogwood Ave, PMB 101, Gillette, WY 82718

Phone: 1-800-795-6381
 tobilyon@wyonurse.org

CONTACT HOURS: A total of 4.5 contact hours will be offered for the educational activity

TARGET AUDIENCE: Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Nurses, Nursing Students and Friends of Nursing

PROGRAM GOAL: This educational activity was designed for Registered Nurses and nursing students who have an interest in public policy and how nurses become involved in the political arena. This activity will review the legislative process and update participants on current state and federal legislation related to health care.

WNA ANNUAL CONVENTION

WNA ANNUAL 2012 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

The Wyoming Nurses Association Annual Convention and the Wyoming Nurses Summit was held in Laramie, Wyoming on September 13-15, 2012, "Future of Nursing in Wyoming." Keynote speakers included on Thursday Dr. Peter Buerhaus, Director for the Center for Interdisciplinary Health Workforce Studies for Vanderbilt University Medical Center Institute for Medicine and Public Health. Friday's keynote speaker was Mary Lou Brunell, Executive Director of the Florida Center for Nursing. Saturday's keynote speaker was Karren Kowalski, President and CEO of Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence.

2012 Award Winners:

**Barbara Jean James, MS, BSN, RN
Rawlins**

*Community Service and
Health Promotion Award*

**Leslie Comly, BSN, RN, CNN
Laramie**

Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice Award

**Anne Raga, BSN, RN
Gillette**

Leadership in Nursing Award

**Faith Jones, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Powell**

Outstanding Leadership for WNA Award

**Baerbel Merrill, MSN, RN, CIC
Gillette**

Lifetime Achievement Award

**Jolene Knaus, MS, RN
Casper**

District 2 Nurse of the Year

**Caitlin Vasquez, MSN, PMHNP-BC
Laramie**

District 12 Nurse of the Year

**Barbara Jean James, MS, BSN, RN
Rawlins**

District 50 Nurse of the Year

WNA election results for the 2012-2014 term is as follows:



**President Elect
Anne Raga, BSN, RN
Gillette**



**Treasurer
Vickie Winney, RN
Douglas**

Outgoing WNA board members were recognized for their years of service:

**Faith Jones,
President, 2010-2012**

**Sue Howard,
Treasurer, 2010-2012**

**Mary Behrens,
ANA House of
Delegates, 2008-2012**

**Anne Raga,
ANA House of
Delegates, 2010-2012**

Thank You to the 2012 Convention Sponsors and Exhibitors

We greatly appreciate the generosity and dedication that all of our sponsors and exhibitors have given WNA over the years. Their support made the 2012 convention and nursing summit a solid success!

- Arthur Davis Publishing Agency
- Campbell County Memorial Hospital
- Faye Whitney School of Nursing
- Iverson Memorial Hospital
- LEAP Nurse Educator Project
- Mountain Pacific Quality Health
- Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County
- Summit Home Health
- United States Air Force
- University of Colorado
- Western Governors University
- Wyoming Department of Health
- Wyoming Health Council
- Wyoming Medical Center



There are many fun times at convention and sometimes one never does know what surprises are in store for them. Outgoing President Faith Jones was a great cheerleader for the past two years for the Wyoming. In honor of her outstanding cheerleading, WNA Board of Directors and Executive Director Tobi Lyon Moore preformed a cheer in Faith's honor. The exciting and fun was written by the creative WNA member Heather Huber, Casper.

WNA 2013 Annual Convention will be held September 26-28, 2013 at the Snow King Resort, Jackson Hole, Wyoming.



Heather Huber



Faith Jones, right, presents Anne Raga a plaque for her years of service as an ANA Delegate



Lisa Horton presenting Faith Jones as outgoing President, Years of Service plaque



Lisa Horton, Caitlin Vasquez, Laramie, District 12 Nurse of the Year and Jeanine Niemoller, Awards Chair



Lisa Horton, Barbara Jean James, Rawlins, Community Service and Health Promotion AND District 50 Nurse of the Year Award, and Jeanine Niemoller, Awards Chair



Lisa Horton, Anne Raga, Gillette, Leadership in Nursing, and Sue Howard



Lisa Horton, Faith Jones, Powell, Outstanding Leadership for WNA, and Jeanine Niemoller, Awards Chair



Sue Howard Outgoing Treasurer and Faith Jones



Lisa Horton, Jolene Knaus, Casper, District 2 Nurse of the Year, and Jeanine Niemoller, Awards Chair

District Reports

Cheyenne District 1

Maria Kidner, District 1 President

Wow! WNA District 1 has already completed two outstanding events for the nurses in Cheyenne. September 29th was our 1st Day of Education. The 2012 topic was Lymphedema. We had presentations from physicians, surgeon, and certified lymphedema massage therapist. Twenty-eight nurses attended and stayed late to enjoy the amazing hot snacks provided. We are already contemplating the 2013 Day of Education ideas. In attempting to get more participation in a legislative event, we brainstormed for a new idea. This year we moved from a November, Congratulations-you-have-been-elected night to a 'Evening of Conversation.' On October 28 RN's, 5 APRNs, 1 CNA, 1 MD and 13 legislative candidates gathered for an energetic evening of conversation and laughter. The goal of this District 1 meeting was to provide a friendly event to learn how to interact with a legislator and what questions should be asked. We learned that the legislative candidates are wonderful people with great and funny life stories. They enjoyed learning about RN roles and our stories. Each candidate was given a written 1 page talk sheet about WNA and RN and APRN legislative concerns. We are now looking forward to our January meeting.

I would like to spot light an up and coming nurse in District 1. Candace Burch started attending WNA meetings as a shy student from LCCC. She completed our District 1 challenge of attended and participating in two District events and was awarded her first year of WNA dues. Candace's last year of nursing school was complicated with health challenges that would have made most want to quit life completely, but her determination and dedication to school proved to be stronger than any illness and she graduated and passed boards this summer. Propelled to continue her personal growth and nursing she has already enrolled in the RN to BSN completion program. She is an amazing asset to the Cheyenne Cardiology Associates office as a RN. Her background as a medical assistant, EMT, and now RN shows her determination to continue to grow in nursing. District 1 welcomes Candace Burch, RN to WNA and we are looking forward to her innovations, ideas, and leadership growth during her nursing career.

Casper District 2

Jolene Knaus, District 2 President

'Let's Talk About Health Issues and Politics...' was the topic of DNA#2 meeting on October 25, 2012. We met at the Casper Country Club for hors d'oeuvres and beverages. There were 27 RNs/students in attendance and five (5) political candidates. Our guests included: Chris Henrichsen (D)-candidate for U.S. Representative; Jim Anderson (R)-candidate for State Senate-District 28; Tom Walters (R)-candidate for State House-District 28; 'Bunky' Loucks (R)-candidate for State House-District 59; Mike Gilmore (D)-candidate for State House-District 59. Jim Anderson and 'Bunky Loucks' both have wives who are RNs, Susan Anderson and Heidi Loucks. Our guests each spoke briefly about their beliefs and concerns about health care issues in the State and US. Thanks to Toni Decklever we handed each guest and member a sheet with points of discussion so we were all on the same page as to some of the health issues that will come before the spring 2014 legislative session. The legislative issues that are supported by WNA were also given to them along with the website for WCNHCP. Senator John Barrasso surprised us with a visit and, as always, he spoke of his respect for nurses. A business meeting followed our guest speakers and it included a moment of silence in memory of Marcia Dale. Invitations to join ANA/WNA were extended to the non-members who joined us for the evening. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2013 and our guest will be Connie Jacobson, MHA, BSN, RN, forensic nurse coroner. I extend an invitation to all interested nurses to join us! Contact: Jolene Knaus, knaushouse@bresnan.net if you would like more information.

Sheridan District 3

Joan Connolly, District 3 President

It gives me great pleasure to announce that WNA District 3 is active once again. As the newly appointed president of District 3, I look forward to serving as well as representing all

of the nurses in the Sheridan area. Since moving to the area several years ago, I have been busy working on my BSN and will graduate in December from the University of Wyoming. I look forward to rebuilding District 3 as an organization and improving the healthcare system as we know it.

The Wyoming Nurses Association Convention and Annual Wyoming Nursing Summit in Laramie this September was well attended by nurses from the Sheridan area. Next year, it is my desire to increase the presence of Sheridan nurses at these events.

On October 15th, our district held an informal meeting in an attempt to reorganize as a team. There was discussion about the need to fill the vacant positions of secretary and vice-president within District 3, our bylaws, and how to increase our membership. A Facebook page has been created to post important news and events related to nursing in the area—just type in WNA District #3—Sheridan. Please be sure to check it out!

In January 2013, WNA's Legislative Days will be held. It is essential to the future of nursing that we participate in the legislative process and communicate what we stand for.

Rock Springs District 6

David Bodily, District 6 President

District 6 hosted their annual "Evening with our Legislators" on Thursday, November 15th. With healthcare in the national spotlight, informative discussions with the people we're sending to the Wyoming legislative session were the highlight of the evening. We remain committed to the welfare of our communities and to the advancement of our profession. We look forward to the upcoming WNA Legislative Days event in Cheyenne and hope to see you there.

Gillette District 10

Rose Rennell, District 10 Past President

Several of our District's members have been very busy and working hard for the Association. Veronica Taylor and Sue Howard have completed another successful Leadership Institute Training. Anne Raga has begun her role as the President Elect for WNA.

At our November monthly meeting, which was held at PrimRose Retirement center, we were treated with a wonderful meal courtesy of their chef. Elections of officers occurred at this meeting and are as follows:

President: Alicia LePard
Vice President: Sue Howard
Secretary: Ginger Costin
Treasurer: Ramona Bushor

It has been my honor to be the president of District 10 the last 4 years and I know I leave the District in capable hands, thank you to everyone.

Laramie District 12

Rebecca Carron, District 12 President

I hope everyone who came to the WNA State Convention in Laramie had a wonderful time! I want to especially thank the District 12 WNA members who worked hard to ensure a wonderful convention: Jeanie Niemoller, Susan Steiner, and Lorraine Saulino-Klein. A special thanks also to Sue Howard from District 10 for her valuable help.

WNA District 12 and the Alpha Pi chapter of Sigma Theta Tau hosted a pizza party for nursing students at the University of Wyoming on Nov. 15, 2012. The theme of the party was information about both organizations and answer student questions. Our goal is for nursing students to see the benefits of belonging to their professional organizations.

Upcoming events include attending Legislative Days in Cheyenne January 24-25, 2013.

Evanston/Kemmerer District 17

Lynn Rogers, District 17 Treasurer

The first meeting of the fall for DNA #17 was held on October 17th in Evanston. The group's president, Tammy Krell, conducted the meeting and welcomed a potential

new member. The recurrent discussion of ways to increase membership included distribution of information about DNA and WNA and plans for contacting nurses throughout our district by a variety of methods. Plans for upcoming meetings and possible subjects of interest to be presented were briefly discussed. Tammy spoke about the WNA Bylaw changes and also gave a report about the WNA Nursing Summit and Annual Convention. The next meeting will be in Evanston on November 28th.

Undistricted Members District 50

Barbara Jean James, District 50 President

WNA District 50 discussed ways to increase enrollment and get more nurses involved in WNA. With the upcoming legislation our goal is to host January meeting with an invite to our government representatives. Members discussed ways to promote nursing leaders, and how to advance the professional development of nurses. Members agreed to reach out and invite nurses to our next meeting and explain what WNA is and what it means to belong to a professional organization.



Tom Walters and Connie Jacobsen



Jim and Susan Anderson, Trina Soper, Tia Hansuld, Cheryl Wrasper

Welcome New WNA Members

WNA Only

Tenny Davis,
Rock Springs
Darla Parks, Gillette
Cynthia Woods,
Wheatland

District 1

Terra Hines, Cheyenne
Shannon Wilcox,
Cheyenne

District 2

Rosemary Lewallen,
Casper
Jessica Naiman, Casper
Karen Price, Casper
Rhonda Stark, Casper
Kathy Verow, Casper

District 3

Randi Craig, Sheridan
Charlotte Mather,
Sheridan

District 10

Pamela Freed, Newcastle
Virginia Nolin, Gillette

District 14

Paula Kihn, Lander

District 16

Kari Zorad, Powell

District 17

Mark Wagstaff, Evanston
William Whisman,
Evanston

WNA Online Membership Survey

The Wyoming Nurses Association Board of Directors conducted an online membership survey regarding our current services and products that are offered to each of our members. We had an outstanding turnout rate with 42% of the membership responding to the survey.

Thank you to everyone who took the two minutes out of their day to provide us with this important feedback. The information that we gathered was discussed at the annual meeting in September and was a great resource during the Board of Directors strategic planning session in November. The board wants to share the information that we gathered; in the coming year we will take the feedback that was gathered and use it as a plan to address areas that were considered weak and/or enhance areas you would like to see more of.

WNA office uses email communication to reach our membership. If you are not receiving emails for the WNA office please email Tobi Lyon Moore at tobilyon@wyonurse.org and provide your preferred email address.

1. Discount to the Annual Convention in collaboration with the Nursing Summit; Wyoming Nurses Day at the Legislator; and the Wyoming Nursing Leadership Institute.

Not Valuable	5.7%
Somewhat Valuable	24.1%
Very Valuable	43.7%
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	18.4%
N/A I have not used this product/service	9.2%

2. District meetings

Not Valuable	5.7%
Somewhat Valuable	39.1%
Very Valuable	40.2%
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	2.3%
N/A I have not used this product/service	13.8%

3. Email communications from WNA office, Wyoming online newsletter, and the Wyoming Nurse

Not Valuable	1.2%
Somewhat Valuable	29.1%
Very Valuable	66.3%
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	1.2%
N/A I have not used this product/service	2.3%

4. Local Wyoming lobbyist along with Federal lobbying on issues important to nursing and health care

Not Valuable	2.3%
Somewhat Valuable	20.5%
Very Valuable	75.0%
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	2.3%
N/A I have not used this product/service	0.0%

5. Discount on professional liability insurance; certification through ANCC; and nursesbooks.org—ANA's bookstore

Not Valuable	2.3%
Somewhat Valuable	19.5%
Very Valuable	57.5%
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	10.3%
N/A I have not used this product/service	11.5%

6. Wyoming Nurses Association Career Center

Not Valuable	7.0%
Somewhat Valuable	25.6%
Very Valuable	14.0%
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	36.0%
N/A I have not used this product/service	18.6%

7. The American Nurse, The Online Journal of issues in Nursing and ANA Smart Brief

Not Valuable	2.4%
Somewhat Valuable	22.4%
Very Valuable	72.9%
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	1.2%
N/A I have not used this product/service	1.2%

8. Wyoming Nurses Association Website as a source of information; Access to members' only tools on the ANA website, Nursing World, including CINAHL, and PubMed. (Content free only to members, including factsheets, toolkits, ANA Principles and the ANA publication achieves.)

Not Valuable	3.5%
Somewhat Valuable	25.6%
Very Valuable	51.2%
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	11.6%
N/A I have not used this product/service	8.1%

9. Association Leadership Opportunities/Networking

Not Valuable	4.7%	4
Somewhat Valuable	33.7%	29
Very Valuable	48.8%	42
I did not know WNA offered this product/service	1.2%	1
N/A I have not used this product/service	14.0%	12



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ReNEW (REvolutionizing Nursing Education in Wyoming) Update

Mary E. Burman
Co-Chair, WCNHCP Advisory Board
Matt Sholty
Office Associate, WCNHCP

The work we are doing in the state as part of ReNEW is very much in line with a variety of national initiatives, such as the Campaign for Action which is working to implement the recommendations in the Institute of Medicine's *Future of Nursing* report published in 2010. This fall, in a historic move to support all nurses moving to advance their education, leaders from national organizations representing community college presidents, boards, and program administrators have joined with representatives from nursing education associations to endorse a *Joint Statement on Academic Progression for Nursing Students and Graduates*. With the shared goal of preparing a well-educated, diverse nursing workforce, this consensus statement represents the shared view that nursing students and practicing nurses should be supported in their efforts to pursue higher levels of education. Endorsing organizations include the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), the Association of Community Colleges Trustees (ACCT), the National League for Nursing (NLN), and

the National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (N-OADN). For more information, please read the press release available at: <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/news/articles/2012/academic-progression>.

This is very exciting and certainly underscores the important work we are doing in Wyoming! So what is happening with ReNEW? The ReNEW committees are hard at work. The Curriculum Committee hosted a face to face meeting in October to finalize the core concepts that will be the basis of the ReNEW curriculum. The Professional Development Committee is planning the 2013 Nursing Education Summit. They hope to focus on clinical education transformation... so stay tuned (More information to come as we finalize speakers and location). A monthly call with all of the committee chairs is held to coordinate efforts, discuss issues, and find best solutions to any challenges that come up during committee work. In October, Deb Center from the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence facilitated a coaching session to assist the committee chairs in goal setting and keeping the momentum for ReNEW.

The ReNEW Steering Committee held a retreat in November in Casper to discuss long term sustainability of ReNEW. We need to have in place the structure and funding that will support the statewide curriculum for years to come. Key to our success will be maintaining the visibility of the project and garnering support from a variety of sectors across the state. Consequently, the Steering Committee also has sponsored ReNEW Regional meetings around the state, meeting with community college administrators and faculty, hospital, long-term care, public health and other health care organization administrators and staff. Meetings have been held in Casper, Gillette, Cheyenne, Riverton/Lander and Rock Springs/Green River. The Steering Committee plans final meetings in Powell and Sheridan. These meetings have been very productive. We are pleased with the support expressed for ReNEW and the ideas generated during these visits.

ReNEW is sponsored by the Wyoming Center for Nursing and Health Care partnerships (WCNHCP). If you have questions about ReNEW, please feel free to contact the WCNHCP at 307-766-6715 or info@wynursing.org. Or visit the WCNHCP website at <http://wynursing.org>.

Wyoming Health Information Exchange Includes Nurses



The term health information exchange (HIE) can be viewed from two perspectives: 1) as a verb—to securely move health information from one place to another for the purposes of treatment, payment or health care operations and 2) as a noun—the organization providing the technology to move patient information between health professionals as in “The HIE.”

The goal of HIE is to close information gaps between health care professionals leading to more efficient health care delivery. By making communication easier, HIE saves time spent at fax machines or on the phone chasing elusive medical records.

Wyoming e-Health Partnership, Inc. (Partnership) is the non-profit organization designated by Governor Mead to lead health information exchange efforts in Wyoming. The Partnership is pleased to report health information exchange is underway in Wyoming. The first phase of exchange includes 17 organizations signed up to use *Direct* secure email messaging where patient information such as lab results, care summaries and referrals can be emailed to other enrolled health care professionals instead of delivered by fax or mail.

With the first step of HIE launched, plans are in place to bring look-up functionality to Wyoming where patient demographics are used to locate and view specific patient information across multiple sources such as hospitals, labs, and clinics. With the advent of electronic health record installation throughout Wyoming hospitals and clinics, patient information is becoming electronic and the HIE provides the infrastructure needed to securely combine selected information from multiple electronic health records into one easily viewable screen where health professionals can see more of the patient's whole health picture.

HIE brings new tools to nurses and other health professionals for obtaining patient information needed to coordinate care across diverse geographies and across organizations with different electronic health records. This communication is important for such initiatives as patient centered medical homes, providing a connection for improved coordination between patient treatment teams using different technologies in one place for easy viewing.

For more information about the statewide HIE contact the Partnership's Heather Roe Day at hroeday@healthwyo.org.

Kathleen B. Dixon, RN, JD Attorney at Law



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ANA Update from Wyoming Member

Faith M Jones, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Director at Large, ANA Board of Directors

Wow, what a ride. As many of you know, I was elected to the ANA Board of Directors as a Director at Large in June 2012 at the House of Delegates. The entire process of running a campaign to sitting waiting for the votes to be tallied to the announcement and the swearing into office was amazing. My orientation was in July at the ANA office followed by frequent conference calls and lots of reading. I have already learned so much and hope to share valuable information about the direction of our profession with all of you in each issue throughout my term on the Board.

Let's begin with what I hope to be the answer to the age old question of what does the ANA do for me? As many of you are aware from our last issue, the House of Delegates (HOD) voted on several bylaw changes that will enable the ANA to act more quickly and therefore be more responsive to relevant issues facing our members and our profession as a whole. From the direction given to the Board by the delegates at the HOD, the ANA Board has approved the strategic plan for 2012-2014. In the accompanying schematic, you will note that the mission and core values remain the same and that the strategic themes are a direct reflection from discussions held at HOD and highlighted in articles from our delegates in the last issue.

I would like to draw your attention to the Programmatic Pillars. The eight pillars are:

- Leadership
- Cornerstone Documents
- Scope of Practice
- Care Innovation
- Quality
- Work Environment
- Safe Staffing
- Healthy Nurse

All of these pillars are built upon the foundation of Advocacy and Professional Development. It is within these areas that ANA will focus on providing education, developing tools, offering products, and furthering the legislative agenda of our profession.

I believe that if you take a few minutes each week to review the ANA website at www.nursingworld.org and learn about the education, tools, and products being offered you will see the many things that ANA is doing for each of us as members of the nursing profession. If you have any questions or have any suggestions please be sure to contact me and I would be happy to have a conversation with you. You can reach me through my email fjones@bresnan.net.

Communication and keeping yourself up to date on the issues is key. If you are a member of ANA and WNA, you should be getting email updates about the latest work being done on the areas within the pillars from Tobi Lyon our executive director. If you are not getting information via email, it may be that your email is not updated in our database. Please contact Tobi to give her your most current email address. Her contact info is:

Tobi Lyon Moore—Executive Director
tobilyon@wyonurse.org or call at 1-800-795-6381

I look forward to my continued adventure on the ANA Board and to keeping you updated with information.



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Unity

Diversity

Integrity

Excellence

2012-2014 STRATEGIC THEMES

1. Simplify the national governance structure.
2. Strengthen constituent and state nurses associations and ANA enterprise infrastructure and relationships as well as support for state-based activities.
3. Create and implement a high-growth membership organization.
4. Develop and implement a focused menu of programs, products and services based on programmatic pillars framework.
5. Develop an integrated business and technology platform.

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New Medicare Provisions to Recognize and Pay for Core Nursing Services

ANA Advocated Including Care Coordination, Transitional Care in Reimbursement Policies

SILVER SPRING, MD—In a major advancement for registered nurses (RNs), a new Medicare rule calls for paying RNs for services intended to effectively manage patients' transitions from hospitals to other settings and to prevent complications and conditions that cause expensive hospital re-admissions.

The rule also creates new payment codes for "care coordination" activities performed by RNs that reduce costs and improve patient outcomes, increasing likelihood of direct reimbursement for these services and potentially creating more RN jobs to fill this need.

With up to 20 percent of Medicare patients re-admitted to hospitals within 30 days of discharge, more value is being placed on effective transitional care and care coordination.

"The American Nurses Association has been advocating for years that government and private insurers need to recognize nurses' contributions to transitional care and care coordination and pay appropriately for these essential services," said ANA President Karen A. Daley, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN. "This Medicare rule is a giant step forward for nurses whose knowledge and skills play major roles in patients' satisfaction and quality of care."

ANA's 2012 report, "The Value of Nursing Care Coordination," highlights numerous studies showing the positive impact of nurse-managed care coordination. Studies show that care coordination reduces emergency department visits, hospital readmissions, and medication costs; lowers total annual Medicare costs; improves patient satisfaction and confidence to self-manage care; and increases safety for older adults during transitions between settings.

ANA participates on the American Medical Association CPT and RUC panels that set codes describing medical, surgical, and diagnostic services and place price values on them—the foundation for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) payment policies.

"There's no doubt that ANA's involvement on these panels had a strong influence on the new provisions that account in real dollars for nurses' crucial contributions," Daley said. "Patients benefit from our work. Now the value of our work is being recognized through payment policy."

New payments will be awarded to nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, and other primary care professionals for "transitional care management" services provided within 30 days of a Medicare patient's discharge from a hospital or similar facility. To qualify for reimbursement, the primary care professional must: contact the patient soon after discharge; conduct an in-person visit; engage in medical decision-making; and provide care coordination. Care coordination involves effectively communicating and delivering a patient's needs and preferences for health services and information among a continuum of health care providers, functions, and settings.

The Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule, issued Nov. 1 by CMS and set to take effect Jan. 1, 2013 after publication in the *Federal Register*, also includes new codes that describe "complex chronic care coordination," a service typically provided by RNs. Though the rule will not allow separate billing for care coordination, some private insurers are likely to use the codes to reimburse providers directly for the service. Such reimbursement policies for care coordination could expand the RN job market. They could also raise recognition for nurses performing this long-held, core professional standard and competency considered integral to patient-centered care and the effective and efficient use of health care resources.

The rule contains several other provisions that benefit nurses by:

- Clarifying that certified registered nurse anesthetists will continue to be reimbursed for providing chronic pain management services in states where permitted by license.
- Permitting advanced practice registered nurses to order portable X-rays.
- Ensuring nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists can conduct the in-person encounters required for ordering durable medical equipment for patients.

ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent and state nurses associations and its organizational affiliates. ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.

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ANA Leads Initiative to Develop National Safe Patient Handling Standards

Multi-disciplinary group seeks to establish evidence-based guidelines to address deficiency

SILVER SPRING, MD—The American Nurses Association (ANA) is leading a broad-based effort to develop national standards to guide hospitals and other health care facilities in their implementation of policies and equipment to safely lift and move patients, a culture change many experts agree is necessary to reduce injuries to health care workers and patients.

ANA convened a panel of 26 specialists this summer with expertise in nursing, occupational and physical therapy, ergonomics, architecture, health care systems, and other disciplines to devise overarching standards for implementing safe patient handling programs and detailed guidelines for making them work effectively in practice. The Safe Patient Handling (SPH) National Standards Working Group plans to distribute the standards and guidelines to their professional memberships for comment in October, with publication and release set for March 2013.

The panel is seeking to build a consensus of evidence-based best practices in safe patient handling that will apply to multiple health care professions and settings. The panel's goal is to develop language that can be incorporated nationwide into practices, policies, procedures, and regulations and become the basis for resource toolkits and certifications.

"It's long overdue to press for widespread adoption of safe patient handling programs to protect health care workers and patients," said ANA President Karen A. Daley, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN. "Nurses can't wait any longer. Too many are suffering debilitating injuries that force them from the bedside. With demand for nursing services increasing, our nation can't afford for the nursing shortage to worsen by losing nurses to avoidable injury."

Virginia Gillispie, CNS, ND, RN-BC, of Centennial, Colo., was one of those nurses forced from the bedside because of cumulative damage to her back suffered early in her career when she worked as a certified nurses' aide at a nursing care facility, where three aides performed all the turning, lifting, and transferring for about 80 residents. She now works as a collaborative care coordinator for a large, integrated health care system. "It was unsafe for us and for the residents," said Gillispie. "My back hurts just thinking about it. I can no longer engage in bedside nursing."

SPH Working Group chairwoman Mary W. Matz, national program manager for patient care ergonomics at the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), emphasizes that creating a safer work environment is not just a matter

of having assistive equipment available, but also changing workplace culture to ensure use of such equipment. Facility coordinators, peer leaders, safety huddles, and other safe patient handling support structures foster cultural transformation. "There is much more to changing the culture than most are aware," said Matz, adding that most entities or departments within a health care facility play a role in the implementation and operation of a safe patient handling program and help determine the program's success.

Since the launch of the ANA Handle with Care® Campaign in 2003, ANA has advocated for policies and legislation that would result in the elimination of manual patient handling. Using mechanical devices to lift, transfer, and reposition patients reduces the risk that patients will be dropped or suffer skin tears and helps preserve their dignity.

Currently, there are no broadly recognized government or private industry national standards for safe patient handling. Health care facility programs lack consistency, as do regulations in 10 states that have enacted safe patient handling laws. In the meantime, health care professionals continue getting injured and musculoskeletal injury remains a top concern.

ANA conducted its own Health and Safety Survey of nurses in 2011, in which 62 percent of the more than 4,600 respondents indicated that suffering a disabling musculoskeletal injury was one of their top three safety concerns. The survey also showed that eight of 10 nurses worked despite experiencing frequent musculoskeletal pain, and that 13 percent were injured three or more times on the job within a year.

A resolution in the 2009-2010 session of Congress urged the adoption of safe patient handling programs, noting that RNs and other health care workers are required to lift and transfer "unreasonable loads, with the average nurse lifting 1.8 tons on an eight-hour shift." Additionally, recent figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that nursing ranks fifth of all occupations in work days missed due to occupational injuries or illnesses.

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Safe Patient Handling National Standards Working Group Participating Organizations

- American Association for Long Term Care Nursing
- American Nurses Association
- American Physical Therapy Association
- American Society for Healthcare Risk Management
- Ascension Health
- Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
- Association of Safe Patient Handling Professionals
- DELHEC, LLC (Educational Services and Consulting)
- Diligent Services (Safe Patient Handling Programs)
- Hill-Rom (Medical Technology)
- Human Fit (Ergonomics and Human Factors Consultant)
- Lockton Companies, LLC (Loss Control Consultant)
- National Association for Home Care & Hospice
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
- Park Nicollet Health Services
- School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, The Wexner Medical Center, The Ohio State University
- Stanford University Medical Center
- U.S. Army Public Health Command
- Veterans Health Administration
- Veterans Health Administration, Patient Safety Center of Inquiry
- Visioning Health Care/American Journal of Safe Patient Handling and Movement
- Washington State Department of Labor and Industries



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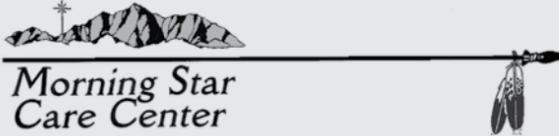
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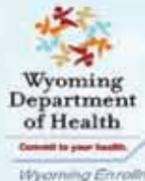
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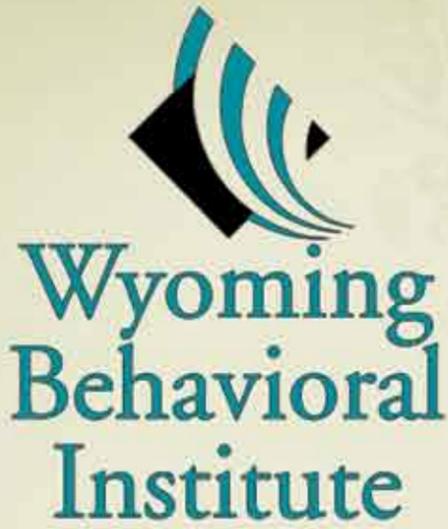
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